

Robyn Lesley

From: "Christine Fletcher" <fletch44@bigpond.net.au>
To: <Robyn.lesley@bigpond.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 3 February 2009 4:05 PM
Subject: Invitation from the UNAANT for the DCC to take part in the International Women's Day Walk, 8th March, 2009

Dear Deputy Lord Mayor, Ms Robyn Lesley,

Thanks for talking to me earlier today.

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the United Nations Association of Australia, Northern Territory Division to invite you, as Deputy Lord Mayor of Darwin, to welcome participants from the International Women's Day Walk, 8th March, 2009. The theme for the IWD Women's Walk for 2009 is: 'Women are our Future' – a theme we believe will resonate in the current international climate of economic deprivation and, for some, despair. We anticipate that the Walk will commence at 10.30am and conclude in the grounds of the Darwin City Council where, if you agree, you and Malarndirri McCarthy will address the participants. .

The UNAANT is part of the larger organisational family of the United Nations itself. Established in 1946, just a year after the United Nations, UNAA's are represented at the community level in over 100 nations around the globe, including Australia and, at a local level in all the Australian states and territories. The objectives of UNAANT, like our counterparts elsewhere, is to promote UN principles and aims, including tolerance, peace, antidiscrimination, and the rights of minorities and women.

Here in the Territory, we are a relatively small organisation with a broad membership base of individuals and corporations from across the community. Our membership includes the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Darwin), the Chancellor of CDU, the Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory, Zonta International, and a cross section of individuals from all walks of life. Our patron is His Honour, Mr Tom Pauling AO QC, Administrator of the Northern Territory and we also have a Vice-Patron: the Hon. Jane Aagaard, Speaker of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly.

Throughout the year, we are engaged with several community organisations in the promotion of Human Rights, Indigenous Rights, Harmony Day, International Women's Day, and United Nations Day, among others. Generally we tend to form partnerships with other organisations and that enables us to promote civic outreach through schools, and through raising public awareness of the issues within our community.

UNAANT would be grateful if you would consider our invitation to take an active part in marking the importance of International Women's Day, both as a speaker and, if possible, as a supporter of refreshments for those undertaking the Walk. In addition, we believe that the Darwin City Council, as our local government representative, would be an ideal partner in marking some of the events supported by the United Nations and, we would be honoured to invite the Darwin City Council to join UNAANT as a corporate member.

Indeed, we do already have the foundations on which to build relations with the DCC: UNAANT established an informal relationship with the DCC in October 2007 when we arranged for Mr Abdullah Mbamba, the UN's Secretary General's Representative in Australia, to take part in the DCC's sister city convention here in Darwin.

As you know, one of the Territory's most distinctive features is the mixture of cultures and religions, and its Indigenous people. We also have the youngest population than anywhere else in the country. Against this background, the UNAANT would take great pleasure in working with the Darwin City Council to stimulate knowledge and appreciation about the importance of harmony and community mindedness, and to also generate awareness of the work undertaken by the UN, and by the peoples it represents. As a point of interest, Darwin is the only Australian capital city that, as yet, does not mark International Women's Day with a walk through the city. We would like to bring Darwin into line with the other major metropolitan centres around the country by holding an inaugural event on Sunday 8th March.

We look forward enthusiastically to hearing from you and hope that you will consider our invitation.

Warm regards,

Christine Fletcher

Christine Fletcher PhD

Vice President, United Nations Association of Australia & President, UNAA Northern Territory

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NOTE

Doc Number 1519465

Subject: Status

Created: 05/02/2009 12:03:26 PM by Samantha French

5/2/09

SCO (Sam French) made contact with Christine Fletcher with regards to this invitation from the UNAANT.

UNAANT propose to hold a walk on Sunday 8th March 2009, where participants will assemble at 10am at DCC's Cavenagh Street Carpark (next to the Post Office). They will begin the walk at 10:30am from there and end the walk at the Tree of Knowledge at the Civic Centre.

Alderman Lesley has been invited to address the group for about 5-7 minutes, an invitation has also been sent to Malarndirri (Barbara) McCarthy to speak.

UNAANT are also requesting in-kind support from Council in the following aspects. Tea, coffee, cold water, biscuits, use of a portable PA system and possibly some chairs for the walkers.

This event is in the very early stages of being organised, no permits or bookings have been lodged with Council, other than the invitation to Alderman Lesley as Deputy Lord Mayor to address the group at this event.

The police also have no knowledge of this event to date. SCO advised that Christine also contact NT Police to notify them of this event. Also that business in the CBD will need to be notified etc and this will be triggered once a request to Customer Services has been lodged.

Christine will send an email to SCO with their specific requests for this event.

SCO transferred Christine to Customer Services to request a permit for this event etc.

NOTE

Doc Number 1519466

Subject: Status

Created: 05/02/2009 12:05:24 PM by Samantha French

5/2/09

Email received from Christine Fletcher and forward to Customer Services for their information.

From: Christine Fletcher [mailto:fletch44@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 5 February 2009 11:36 AM
To: Samantha French
Cc: customerservice@darwin.nt.gov.au
Subject: United Nations International Women's Day Walk, 8th March 2009

Dear Samantha,

Thank you for explaining the Council process for preparing our IWD Women's Walk.

We anticipate around 50 people will take part in the walk which will commence at the Darwin City Council Car Park (GPO) in Cavenagh Street at 10.30am on Sunday 8th March. The walk will conclude at the Tree of Knowledge, DCC at around 11.am.

Following the arrival of the participants at the Tree of Knowledge, as President of the UNAA, I will speak for 2 minutes, introduce Alderman Lesley, and mention the United Nations and International Women's Day. Alderman Robyn Lesley will then speak for between 5 and 10 minutes, followed by the Hon. Malarndirri McCarthy. The Minister will speak for around 10 minutes. That will conclude the event at approximately 11.30 am.

People can help themselves to refreshments during the speakers' address but we will probably need help from the DCC to set things in place.

I understand that we need to apply for a Council permit to enable road closures for a short period - Knuckey and Bennett Streets.

Meanwhile, if possible, we would be most grateful if the Darwin City Council could provide refreshments: cold water, tea or coffee and, hopefully, biscuits. If no disposable cups are available, please let me know and we will supply those.

We also require a modest public address system - microphone and speaker - and if feasible, a few chairs for the walkers.

As the only represented body of the United Nations at a community level, we will also be carrying the official United Nations Flag.

All of the Australian States and Territories have traditionally held International Women's Day Walks, however, this will be the first one held in Darwin to mark IWD. The theme of the walk is 'Women are our Future'.

I understand that we may require a police permit, also.

Your help is very much appreciated. Please let me know if any further details are required. Thanks.

Kind regards

Christine Fletcher
Christine Fletcher PhD
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NOTE

Doc Number 1519757

Subject: Status

Created: 5/02/2009 3:31:06 PM by Samantha French

From: Christine Fletcher [mailto:fletch44@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 5 February 2009 3:28 PM
To: Samantha French
Subject: RE: United Nations International Women's Day Walk, 8th March 2009

Hi Samantha,

Would there be a chance that we could have a copy of the DCC logo to include on the cover of our UN IWD Walk flyer if possible?

If so, is there someone in particular I should approach?

Much appreciated

Christine
Christine Fletcher PhD
President, UNAANT
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