



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report on Overseas Travel: Rino Tirikatene MP

Portfolio **Trade and Export Growth (Māori Trade)**

On 21 November 2022, Cabinet **noted** the report from Rino Tirikatene MP under CAB-22-SUB-0517 on his travel, from 10 to 13 July 2022, to Melbourne, Australia to attend the Global Victoria Indigenous Business Exchange Forum.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively released by the
Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Trade and Export Growth

[In Confidence]

Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Trade and Export Growth, Rino Tirikatene

Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Rino Tirikatene MP

- 1 I recommend that Cabinet note this report on my travel to Melbourne, Australia from 10 July to 13 July 2022.

Report

- 2 The focus of my visit to Melbourne, Australia was in my capacity as Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Trade and Export Growth (Māori Trade) to attend the two-day Global Victoria Indigenous Business Exchange Forum (Forum). The Forum which was held in association with Global Victoria, Aboriginal Economic Development Group of Victoria Department Jobs, Precinct and Regions (DJPR), Te Aratini, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE). The Forum was an initiative developed as a result of engagements from the Te Aratini programme held at Expo 2020 Dubai on 17-19 November 2021. The Forum was also organised to take place directly after the Australia New Zealand Leaders Forum (ANZLF).
- 3 On 11 July I engaged in formal sessions and networking discussions with local Victoria Aboriginal Economic Development businesses and agencies, to explore and build a shared understanding, trust, and connections between First Peoples from both Victoria and Aotearoa New Zealand.
- 4 I provided an opening welcome address to the forum as the senior Aotearoa New Zealand government representative. I also spoke at a session on Aotearoa New Zealand Te Tiriti O Waitangi journey and First People Treaty in Victoria, and how these documents benefit First Nations cultural, economic and business sectors. I was joined by other prominent iwi Māori trade representatives, including Ngahiwi Tomoana.
- 5 I attended sessions focused upon tourism and agriculture to identify potential opportunities that celebrate First Nations cultures and connections to land and water.
- 6 I attended and gave a keynote address at the official forum dinner and networking event between the Māori delegation and Aboriginal businesses and Victoria government representatives and guests.

- 7 On 12 July I participated in site visits that showcased First Peoples heritage and initiatives to improve economic growth for the First peoples group. The sites visited were:
- Kinaway Chamber of Commerce – the visit focused on an innovative First Peoples Fashion and Textiles sector development program that creates pathways for employment, industry and global market opportunities. The program is centred around the marketing and distribution of ready-to-wear First Peoples fashion and textile collections.
 - Koorie Heritage Trust Walking Tour - The Scar Tree Walk is a cultural journey that connects traditional and contemporary Aboriginal cultures and histories of the local Kulin Peoples.
- 8 Overall, I consider the objective of the visit was achieved. To initiate a dialogue between Māori attendees and Victoria's First People, on areas of mutual interest. To build understanding, trust, and connections between First Nations businesses from Aotearoa New Zealand and Victoria, supporting a foundation for trade opportunities. A commitment was agreed for a follow up visit being undertaken to Aotearoa New Zealand by the Victoria's First People to continue engagement and build upon the areas of mutual interest arising from the Forum.

Proactive release

- 9 This paper will be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular (CO) (18) 4. The paper will be subject to redaction as appropriate on the grounds set out under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rino Tirikatene

Under-Secretary to the Minister for Trade and Export Growth (Māori Trade)