



Committee for Auckland

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Members' Update

April 2009



Making Auckland Greater – Results of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance

The Royal Commission found many of the things holding Auckland back related to the way the city-region is run. It found Auckland's regional council and 7 territorial authorities lacked the collective sense of purpose, constitutional ability, and momentum to address issues effectively for the overall good of the City.

The high level decisions from the Government are designed to ensure the prosperity of Auckland, and to make the city the most exciting, vibrant metropolitan centre in Australasia:

- A region that attracts people and investment
- A region that has first class infrastructure and lifestyle
- A region that will encourage our children and grandchildren to build their futures in New Zealand

The key high level decisions are:

- **One unitary Auckland Council as the first tier of governance**
- **One mayor for Auckland with governance powers, elected at large**
- **Twenty councillors to sit on the Auckland Council**
- **Twenty to 30 local boards across the region as the second tier of governance**

Changes for Auckland

Auckland has been well served by the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance, and the government is moving with pace to implement reforms by 2010. It is a very exciting time.

We now enter the phase of change where Auckland Council's new powers and structures, functions and mechanisms move to establishment and into legislation. It is important to continue our backing for change, and we are being encouraged by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Local Government to forward our opinions.

To maintain momentum and foster informed engagement on this important issue, the Committee for Auckland is convening a facilitated workshop designed to support and strengthen proposals for change, bringing added features and practical ideas for Auckland's successful transition, in preparation for Select Committee in 2009.

The workshop will be opened by the Minister for Local Government, and will focus on core themes which have wide impact such as:

- The Mayor of Auckland's leadership role
- Governing the delivery organisations
- Place Shaping the CBD and waterfront, urban development and Auckland's new set of plans
- Working with the Government

Taking place on **Tuesday 5 May from 7.30-1pm at SkyCity Convention Centre**, this invitation-only workshop will draw on the expertise and experience of Auckland's senior leaders. We would like to ensure that our Member's views are added to the mix, and we hope you can spare time for this important task. If you would like to take part in the workshop, RSVP to your invitation at forauckland@tcc.co.nz. For more details contact Kaaren Goodall at ph 300 5593 or Kaaren.goodall@aucklandnz.org.



Ed & Co Update

The Building Better Schools through Business Partnerships Programme is still growing after leaving the nest of the Committee for Auckland Future Leaders Programme and forming as a charitable trust named **Ed & Co**; 'education and corporates'.

Ed and Co has welcome four new partnerships to the programme:

- The Stevenson Group and Papakura South School
- Minter Ellison with Kelston Girls' College
- The ANZ Bank with Kelston Intermediate School
- Jasmx Architects with East Tamaki School

Ed and Co now has fifteen partnerships between low decile schools and corporates in Auckland, and there are more to come this year as companies see the advantage of being involved.

The intention of the programme is to make a strong positive impact, and this is achieved by strengthening the school leadership to improve educational prospects. A business partner acts as a mentor to the principal or sits on the school board of trustees sharing their corporate experience and skills. The benefit can be enormous especially when principals are challenged with strategic decision making in difficult circumstances. The business partners also tell us of the experience of being involved as worthwhile and a benefit to their company too.



If you are interested in learning more about Ed & Co contact Chief Executive Julie Donvin-Irons on ph 968 8000 or visit the website www.edandco.org.nz

Draft Learning Quarter Plan Endorsed

After several years in the making, another Committee for Auckland initiated project, the Learning Quarter Plan, has been given the go ahead by the Auckland City Council. A partnership between AUT University, the University of Auckland and the Auckland City Council, the Learning Quarter Plan aims to

- Create a more effective working relationship between the two universities, businesses and communities
- Bring the Learning Quarter to life and enhance economic and social benefits for the city
- Attract world-class facilities, businesses and residents to the quarter
- Facilitate new and improved connections from the quarter to elsewhere in the city
- Create clearer points of arrival into the quarter
- Showcase university activities, heritage features and raise awareness of opportunities for learning within the quarter

Omega Update



Our first year in operation has had proven success, and developed a solid platform upon which to build. Results confirm that mentoring is one of the most successful interventions to assist skilled migrants into the labour market.

Success in our first year includes:

- ❖ 63 Mentoring matches with job success over 70%
- ❖ 7 CEO mentoring champions
- ❖ 90% overall Programme Satisfaction
- ❖ Support from over 40 Founding Employers and Business Partners
- ❖ Pilot of a mentoring programme delivery partnership with Auckland Regional Migrant Services
- ❖ Design and placement of 6 skilled migrant professionals in low risk / cost paid internship programme
- ❖ Over \$200,000 worth of volunteer time
- ❖ Cities of Migration International partner for NZ

The Tindall Foundation funded the Omega start up, and we are now progressing to a stand-alone entity. Omega is inviting 12 industry leaders to become shareholders in Omega as an independent trust. We are seeking shareholders who are already industry leaders in the area of developing talent, to invest and support Omega achieve its vision. Making a success of Omega means a more innovative and efficient labour market in Auckland.

Becoming a shareholder of the Omega Trust is a three year investment. Shareholders will play a leadership role in establishing a unique and sustainable organisation. If you would like to find out more about this opportunity, contact Omega Programme Director, Justin Treagus on justin.treagus@omega.org.nz or ph 300 5595.

Omega, in conjunction with the Office of Ethnic Affairs is delighted to present **Philippe Legrain**, internationally acclaimed author, journalist and commentator on globalisation and migration, former special adviser to WTO director general Mike Moore, and chief economist and director of policy for Britain in Europe.

What: Philippe Legrain speaks on 'Harnessing International Talent to Boost Innovation and Productivity'

When: Tuesday 19 May, 3.30-5.30pm

Where: Deloitte, Deloitte House, 8 Nelson St, Auckland

You and your HR/Strategy manager are cordially invited to participate in this stimulating session, where you will be challenged by a world authority, learn about innovative talent initiatives at work in Auckland and develop a 3 point action plan on how to boost innovation and productivity. Afterwards, thanks to sponsors Deloitte and Gen-I, mix and mingle with some of Auckland's leading businesses to share tangible solutions to a pressing issue.

RSVP to internationaltalent@tcc.co.nz by 8 May.



Future Auckland Leaders Update

In depth work continues with project team members on their legacy projects. The 4 projects are:

1. **People Valuing People - An operational model for the integration of social services.** This project aims to produce an adaptable model for the integration of social services. The first application of the model will be to develop activities with Ngati Whatua Orakei Marae and the Auckland City Mission Homeless team thereby strengthening cultural connections.



2. **Building Stronger Communities** - the project vision is "supporting the linkage between communities and primary schools to provide even better learning outcomes for students, and the community members around them". This project aims to reconnect senior citizens and local community volunteers with their primary schools via a database directory that captures the school's requirements and matches them to senior citizens, community volunteers and services.



3. **City Guides - refocusing project pilot.** The group has had a change of focus since finding other city guides/walks options in the market, however, their concept remains the same: re-engaging older/retired Aucklanders, with a refocus to volunteer participation in an honorary city ambassadors programme to benefit visitors to Auckland.

The group is working with Heart of the City (Alex Swney) with a view to the honorary ambassadors having a complementary role to HOC's existing city ambassadors. The key point of difference being a PR/ambassador focus for the volunteers, while the existing HOC ambassadors will continue with their operation focus. The vision of a scalable project remains; focussed on the Rugby World Cup 2011 (and supporting initiatives) and other major projects and events.



4. **Asian Angels** – The Asian Angels project is based on the hypothesis that there is a missed opportunity for increasing the levels of involvement between New Zealanders of Asian origin and NZ businesses. The group will focus on two aspects:

1. Education for NZ firms on conducting business in Asia (with a focus on China). The team will prototype the delivery of an education programme that can be run in conjunction with current business incubators and angel investment networks focused on educating NZ firms on the protocols of Asian business. The point of difference will be leveraging the local Chinese population as mentor/educators as part of this programme, thereby distinguishing this education from the academic/theoretical offerings available.
2. Facilitated access to Asian markets (with a focus on China). One of the key barriers for NZ businesses entering Asia is the lack of connections in the target market. This was the primary barrier to export lead growth identified in last year's Deloitte/Unlimited Fast 50 Survey. The recent Free Trade Agreements with China and other Asian countries is likely to be under-utilised should this barrier remain. The team is proposing to use the local Chinese population as conduits to provide access and connections for NZ businesses.



The project teams presented their progress reports to our Project Panel for review recently. We look forward to the 'annual interim review' in late June. Project completion is scheduled for end September, with presentation of projects to our Members in October.

The Future Auckland Leaders graduate on 10th November. Join the Committee for Auckland for an evening of celebration!

Our next Future Auckland Leaders intake commences in February 2010. Should you wish to know more about the programme or would like to reserve a place on the 2 year course for one of your young leaders, please contact Lorraine Mentz on ph 0274 795 037 or email Lorraine.mentz@aucklandnz.org



New Members



**Evan W Davies,
Landco Land
Developments**

Evan Davies is Managing Director of Landco Land Developments, a subsidiary of Todd Capital. Landco Land Developments is a large-scale, broad based property company with two notable residential developments in Auckland - Stonefields, St Johns and Long Bay.

From 1996 until 2007 Evan was the founding Managing Director of gaming and entertainment company, SKYCITY Entertainment Group Limited. While at SKYCITY Evan oversaw the purchase, design and development of several casinos in New Zealand and Australia including Auckland's famous Sky Tower and associated SKYCITY Casino complex.

A qualified planner, Evan has wide spread interests in property development, city planning and urban issues as well as other business interests in farming and viticulture. Evan serves on the Board of Trustees of an Auckland secondary school and sits on the board of two charitable trusts.

David McGregor, Bell Gully

David is Bell Gully's senior partner and a specialist in central and local government relations and resource management. He is also long-standing general counsel and advisor to the New Zealand wine industry. As a legal advisor to the Auckland Regional Council, he has been involved in a wide range of strategic planning and broader issues.

David has been an elected member of Auckland City Council's Hobson Community Board, a member of the Land Transport Safety Authority, and was Territorial Force Advisor to the New Zealand Army. He is presently chairman of the Ranfurly Trust, and a member of the Parnell Community Trust and the Settlor of the Little Barrier Island Supporters Trust. He is Vice Chairman of the Te Araroa Trust (the National Walkway) and is Chairman of the War Pensions Appeal Board. He has been appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire.

David is an Independent Planning Commissioner who has chaired hearings over the V8 street race application, Eden Park extensions, and heritage zoning proposals for Auckland City Council.

Chambers Global 2009 names David as "the firm's leading public law expert", while the 2008 edition notes he is "a hugely experienced adviser on local and central government matters", and a "respected adviser on a broad range of wider public law issues".

Upcoming Events

Changes for Auckland – bringing Auckland Council's new powers and structures, functions and mechanisms to establishment and into legislation. Committee for Auckland is convening a facilitated workshop on **Tuesday 5 May from 7.30am-1pm** at SkyCity Convention Centre. This event is designed to support and strengthen proposals for change, bringing added features and practical ideas for Auckland's successful transition, in preparation for Select Committee in 2009. We hope you can spare your time to contribute to this important task. Please RSVP to forauckland@tcc.co.nz

Philippe Legrain Challenges Auckland – hear acclaimed international author speak on how to harness international talent to boost innovation and productivity on Tuesday 19 May, 3.30-5.30pm. RSVP at internationaltalent@tcc.co.nz

The next Committee for Auckland **Dialogue Lunches** will be hosted by the following members:

- Albert Brantley, Genesis Energy, **Monday 8 June**
- John Taylor/Tim Greville University of Auckland, **Tuesday 23 June**

If you are interested in attending a lunch (all take place between 12 Noon and 1.15pm) please RSVP to Celia Fowler celia.fowler@aucklandnz.org or ph 300 1234. Further location details to follow closer to each lunch date.



Further Information

For further information about the Committee for Auckland, see our website www.aucklandnz.org or contact Executive Director Kaaren Goodall ph 300 5593 kaaren.goodall@aucklandnz.org



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