

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2016

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the New Zealand China Council Chairman's Report for the 2015/16 financial year and to update the Council on developments.

The New Zealand China Relationship

The past year featured expanding high level dialogue between New Zealand and China and continued strengthening of trade, investment and people-to-people connections including tourism and education.

The relationship has continued to flourish with the highlight being the visit to China by Prime Minister John Key in April 2016, where the Council strongly supported one of the key events in the Prime Minister's programme. The mission was well led and organised and Council members made up almost half of the accompanying business delegation. Members had the opportunity to support the Prime Minister in making the case for an upgrade to our ground-breaking FTA negotiated in 2008. While the upgrade remains to be secured, the Chinese side was left in no doubt about the importance the business community attaches to ensuring the FTA meets the needs of business on both sides.

More than 60 government, business and community leaders met their Chinese counterparts in Beijing in September 2015 at the second New Zealand China Partnership Forum. The Partnership Forum was a major undertaking for the Council and sought to develop New Zealand's constituency in China as well as to offer ideas for further enhancing the way New Zealand and China work together across a range of areas. Following the Beijing Forum the delegation also participated in a useful business forum in Shanghai.

The 2015/16 China Council Programme

The Council has continued to focus on the four key pillars of Trade Access and Development, Value from Investment, Chinese Language and Public Awareness. The Council delivered a range of activities and programmes which have underscored both the importance of the relationship and the Council's role as its principal advocate. In addition to the 2015 Partnership Forum and the 2016 PM's Mission key activities included:

- maintaining an active media and communications strategy achieving mention in 66 published articles and regular postings on social media (LinkedIn and Twitter).
- supporting Dame Jenny Shipley's involvement in the March 2016 Bo'ao Forum
- arranging a second round of media awards in 2015 with 21 entries (up from 12 the year before) followed by the supreme award winner, Christopher Adams' trip to China in May 2016 to learn about and report on the Chinese economy

- holding a number of events and activities in New Zealand including the visit of Vice Minister Guo Yezhou in the International Department of the Communist Party (IDCPC)
- holding in conjunction with NZCTA a seminar in November 2015 for a delegation from the Shanghai Entrepreneurs' Association
- supporting a number of Confucius Institute events and awards including the Chinese Language Conference & Chinese Speech Competition, as well as Chinese Language Week
- sponsoring an e-commerce event alongside NZTE and NZCTA
- maintaining regular engagement with the Prime Minister, other Ministers and senior officials
- co-operating actively with a wide range of supporting organizations, including MFAT, NZTE, NZIBF, NZCTA, Asia NZ Foundation, NZCA, and Confucius Institute, as well as the Chinese Embassy and Consulates-General.

Membership

Membership of the Council now stands at 16 on the Executive Board and 14 on the Advisory Board. Changes to the Council membership in the last year included:

- From the Executive Board: the departure of Sir Graeme Harrison, Harlene Haynes, David Green and Christopher Luxon and the appointments of Danny Chan (Deputy Chair ACG), Paul Goodwin (Managing Director ANZ) and Grant Guilford (Vice-Chancellor Victoria University of Wellington)
- From the Advisory Board: the departure of Sir Stephen Tindal, Brett Robinson, Lincoln Dam and the appointments of Meng Foon (President New Zealand Chinese Association), Mai Chen (Chair, Chen & Palmer/NZ Asian Leaders)

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the departing members for their contribution to the Council's work and to congratulate and thank the new members for their service.

In May we bade farewell to our inaugural Executive Director Patrick English who did so much to establish the Council and to initiate a well-supported and successful programme. Pat's deep knowledge of China is missed around our Board table and we are delighted that his new business venture will keep him involved in the relationship.

We have been fortunate to obtain the services of Stephen Jacobi as Acting Executive Director and to benefit from his wide experience in international business.

The Year Ahead: 2016/17

The change in executive leadership provides a timely opportunity to review the Council's strategic plan and forward programme. In particular the Board is keen to explore ways of enhancing the involvement of our Executive and Advisory Boards in our programme. A number of activities and events are already in planning for

2016/17, including:

- continuing to use our media platform to inform New Zealanders about the importance of the relationship including through new social media channels
- arranging the 2017 China Council Media Awards
- sponsoring and supporting events which enhance the trade and investment relationship
- supporting China Language week, as well as working to improve the Chinese language study landscape
- continuing our regular engagement with the Government and its agencies
- continuing to welcome and brief high level Chinese visitors to New Zealand and to build the constituency for the relationship in China.

Appreciation

I would like to thank all Council members for your support, participation and contribution to meetings, events and activities. In particular, I would like to thank to Cathy Quinn and MinterEllisonRudd Watts for their contribution of legal services and Bruce Hassall and the team at PwC for financial management services. I would also like to thank PwC, ANZ, NZTE, MERW and Ngai Tahu who have made their office facilities and staff available to the Council for events and meetings.

I express my appreciation to the team from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade for their on-going financial support to the Council and in conjunction with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise for providing on-going additional funding for our Executive Administrator, Tania Tang, who continues to do a fine job for the Council.

In November we learned the sad news of the death of our 2015-16 Media Award Supreme Winner Christopher Adams. Chris was a fine young journalist who had developed a good understanding of China. We express our deepest sympathy to Chris' family and friends.

The New Zealand China Council has now had four strong years of growth and development and is increasingly seen as an important part of the New Zealand China relationship. Members can feel satisfied with what has been achieved even as we continue to work to take this critical bilateral relationship to a new level in the years ahead.

Rt Hon Sir Don McKinnon
Chairman
New Zealand China Council

NEW ZEALAND CHINA COUNCIL (AS AT JUNE 2016)

Executive Board

Rt Hon Sir Don McKinnon, Chairman, NZ China Council
Rt Hon. Dame Jenny Shipley, Company Director
Brook Barrington, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Tony Browne, Chairman, NZ Contemporary China Research Centre
Peter Chrisp, Chief Executive, New Zealand Trade & Enterprise
Peter Clark, Chief Executive, PF Olsen
Paul Goodwin, Managing Director, ANZ Bank
Grant Guilford, Vice-Chancellor, Victoria University of Wellington
Bruce Hassall, Chief Executive, PwC
Arthur Loo, Partner, Loo & Koo
Peter McBride, Chairman, Zespri
Cathy Quinn, Chair, Minter Ellison Rudd Watts
Ngahiwi Tomoana, Chair, Ngati Kahungunu
Martin Thomson, Chair NZCTA/Partner, DLA Piper
John Wilson, Chairman, Fonterra Co-operative Group
Stephen Jacobi, Acting Executive Director, NZ China Council

Advisory Board

Dave Bromwich, President, NZ China Friendship Society
Danny Chan, Deputy Chair, ACG Colleges
Mai Chen, Chair Palmer/NZ Asian Leaders
Simon Draper, Executive Director, Asia New Zealand Foundation
Rick Ellis, Chief Executive, Museum of New Zealand
Charles Finny, Chair, Education NZ
Meng Foon, National President, New Zealand Chinese Association
Peter Landon-Lane, Chairman, Chair Science NZ/ CEO, Plant & Food
Fran O'Sullivan, Columnist/NZ Inc
John Penno, Chief Executive, Synlait
David Shearer MP, Labour Party
Sir Mark Solomon, Chairman Ngaitahu
Steven Wong, Chairman, United Chinese Association
Dr Jian Yang MP, National Party

NZIBF Contributors

Paul Gestro, Head of Asia Business, Bank of New Zealand
Sir Graeme Harrison, Chairman, ANZCO Foods
Kirk Hope, CEO, Business New Zealand
James Parsons, Chair, Beef and Lamb New Zealand
Steve Yung, CEO, Sealord