

# **OPEN**

# **MINUTE ITEM**

# **ATTACHMENTS**

**Ordinary meeting of the  
Governance Committee**

**Thursday 28 May 2015  
Commencing at the conclusion of the Council meeting  
Council Chamber**

**Civic House**

**110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson**

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## Sister Cities New Zealand's Mission Statement

The Mission of the Society shall be:

"to act as a non-profit organisation working to increase global co-operation at the local level, promote cultural understanding, stimulate economic development and play a part in the achievement of world peace by fostering a citizens network of organisations and individuals devoted to creating and strengthening partnerships between various New Zealand and international communities."

Section 2.1, SCNZ Constitution



[www.sistercities.org.nz](http://www.sistercities.org.nz)

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## Promoting People-to-People Exchanges



## What does SCNZ do?

Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) is the national organisation bringing together sister city associations throughout New Zealand including kindred organisations, voluntary, local-body and governmental groups, individuals, cultural, sporting, educational and trade groups involved in people-to-people contact between countries and cultures.

SCNZ aims to assist its member organisations to increase global co-operation at a local level, promote cultural understanding, stimulate economic development and foster a citizens' network of organisations and individuals devoted to creating and strengthening partnerships between New Zealand and international communities.

SCNZ arranges an annual conference where quality exchanges are exemplified, ideas swapped, projects discussed and where speakers can inspire.

Additionally, the work of SCNZ is to support members through an effective website, encourage and assist locally-driven workshops, retain good relationships with sponsors, supporters and overseas interest and disseminate useful information to its members, mainly through its regular newsletters.

An AGM of SCNZ is held at the conclusion of the annual conference, where up to seven members are elected to run the affairs of the organisation. A small secretariat deals with its day-to-day running.

## What are Sister Cities?

Sister Cities are cooperative agreements between towns, cities and regions between two countries. The relationship enables closer friendship, cooperation and understanding.

Sister Cities programmes foster communications across borders – a mutual exchange of ideas, people and materials in cultural, educational, youth, sports, municipal, professional and technical projects.



Our concept is unique: it is two-way; the give and take is shared by both sides; it provides for planned and continuous contact between the cities involved and their citizens; it brings together both municipalities' volunteer resources at the local level.

The establishment of a sister city relationship stimulates interaction between people of different countries, and cultures, on a people-to-people basis. The aim is to foster international understanding and friendship, to encourage exchange of education, culture and sport, and to promote, where possible, tourism and trade. These concepts are recognised as a catalyst for economic growth.

The establishment of a sister city relationship is readily negotiated between two willing partners. A list of cities, towns and regions seeking relationships in New Zealand are listed on the SCNZ website. We would be happy to assist any city who would like to form a relationship in New Zealand or overseas and our national Board are happy to discuss this with you and provide letters of introduction.

SCNZ is a not-for-profit organization. Operational matters are decided by an elected Board of Directors, who are supported by specialist advisors. The Board of Directors, and many of the organization associated to SCNZ, are driven by volunteers and community support. We thank them all for their commitment.

## New Zealand's Sister Cities

New Zealand has approximately 150 Sister City relationships around the world.

There are always cities looking for new partners. If your Council is interested in establishing a new relationship, please get in touch with SCNZ at [admin@sistercities.org.nz](mailto:admin@sistercities.org.nz)

A full list of New Zealand's Sister City relationships, as well as a list of cities looking for partners in New Zealand, is available at the SCNZ website.

### Overview of New Zealand's relationships

- Japan—42 partnerships
- China—32 partnerships
- Australia—25 partnerships
- USA—20 partnerships
- UK—11 partnerships
- Europe—10 partnerships
- Pacific Islands—4 partnerships
- South Korea—3 partnerships
- Canada—2 partnerships



ATTENDEES AT THE 2014 SISTER CITIES NEW ZEALAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
TE PAPA, WELLINGTON