



# **SISTER CITIES CONFERENCE**

# **2019**

PROSPERITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

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## **INFORMATION PACK**

CONFERENCE & FUNCTION CENTRE  
PALMERSTON NORTH, NEW ZEALAND

**21-23 MARCH 2019**

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## Mayor's Message



**Kia Ora,**

Kia Ora, As the Mayor of Palmerston North City, I'm delighted to be hosting the 2019 Sister Cities New Zealand National Conference. Home to leading world-class businesses, research and education institutes, Palmerston North is humming with international activities and networks. This makes us one of the most diverse, multicultural regional cities in New Zealand. New Zealand cities and regions are increasingly committed to driving communities, to thrive in a global marketplace. So our chosen theme for the 2019 conference is "Prosperity through Partnership", exploring the many ways that cities and regional centres have a role in supporting international connectivity, trade, business and innovation. The conference will have a strong economic development focus, an emphasis on practical outcomes, and include a range of national and international speakers. This event will be made even more special and prominent by its timing with Palmerston North's international Festival of Cultures, which is attended by thousands from around our region every year. I warmly invite you to join us at this valuable national event.

**Grant Smith,**  
Mayor of Palmerston North City

## President's Message



**Nau mai, Haere mai,**

Nau mai, Haere mai, The aim of Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) is to foster international understanding and friendship between NZ cities, and to encourage the exchange of ideas, knowledge, culture, tourism and trade. At its core, the Sister City movement was established to promote world peace and prosperity through intercultural understanding and acceptance – a notion that is just as important today as it ever was. At this conference, Mayors, Ambassadors, city officials, businesses and community groups will come together and roll up their sleeves to share knowledge and unpack the same question – how do we make the most of our international partnerships and global city-to-city networks? These days this extends beyond the traditional Sister City model to topics like economic alliances, strategic partnerships and cross-border projects. The SCNZ Board welcomes you this event and to support our wider mission as we unlock the potential of our valuable international partnerships.

**Hiromi Morris,**  
President of Sister Cities New Zealand





## What is the SCNZ Conference?

The Sister Cities New Zealand (SCNZ) conference is an annual meeting of mayors, elected members, local and central government officials, and community leaders, to discuss, learn and exchange best practice on international cooperation at a local level.

‘Sister Cities’ or ‘Friendship Cities’ are the traditional terms for these city partnerships, but the conference openly examines all forms of city and regional international relations, including strategic city partnerships and projects, economic alliances and participation in international city networks.

At their core, all these types of international city partnerships seek the same thing: cross-border communication and cooperation to achieve mutual benefits. They create a channel for the exchange of ideas, people, and materials across a range of cultural, economic, educational, youth, sports, municipal, professional, and technical projects.

The SCNZ organisation provides a network for New Zealand cities to join knowledge and forces to make the most of these international partnerships and support an NZ Inc. approach to global engagement.





# Conference Objectives

- For SCNZ members and delegates to deepen their knowledge of the context and opportunities of international economic, education, environmental and cultural cooperation
- For SCNZ members to exchange knowledge, ideas and tools for managing their international city partnerships more effectively
- For cities and SCNZ members to discuss the revised report on the 'Economic Benefits of International City Partnerships for New Zealand', and how to apply best practice to their own city partnerships
- For Palmerston North to welcome our international partner city guests, showcase the best of our city, and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation across all relationships

# Who will be attending?

**Local government:**  
Mayors, councillors, CEO's, council officials

**Diplomatic Corps:**  
Ambassadors, High Commissioners, diplomatic staff

**Central government:**  
National agencies such as MFAT, LGNZ, MBIE and NZTE

**International visitors:**  
Including the Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR), Chinese Association for Friendship for Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and the cities of Missoula (USA) and Mihara (Japan)

**Business and Trade:**  
Economic Development Agencies, Chambers of Commerce, and other business leaders, owners and managers with an international interest

**Universities and schools:**  
Senior leadership, educators, staff and volunteers

**Community leaders:**  
Sister City Trusts, community boards/committees, youth leaders

# Why attend?

- Unlock international opportunities and overcome challenges by sharing knowledge and best practice through the sessions.
- Profile what you are achieving with your global partner cities, and be in for an Air New Zealand SCNZ Award if you're a member...
- Create valuable networks with leaders and policy makers from local and central government and the diplomatic corps.



# SCNZ Conference Agenda

## Thursday 21 March - Conference Day 1

From 9am	Registration desk open	Conference & Function Centre foyer
11am	Mihi & Karakia / Opening presentations - NZIER report launch	Main Conference Room (upstairs)
12pm	Lunch	Conference & Function Centre – Elwood Room
1pm	<b>Session 1: The contribution of global city partnerships to NZ Economic Development and Foreign Affairs</b>	Main Conference Room (upstairs)
2pm	<b>Session 2: 2019 China NZ Year of Tourism – opportunities for Sister cities</b>	Conference Room
2:45pm	Afternoon tea	Gallery Room
3:15pm	<b>Session 3: Regional Forums</b> – break into regional groups for collaboration discussions	Conference breakout spaces
4:15pm	Walk to next venue	Te Manawa (next door)
4:00pm	Palmerston North Sister City displays & presentations	Te Manawa
5:00pm – 7:00pm	<b>Welcome reception and tour of the New Zealand Rugby Museum</b> <b>Welcome by Hiromi Morris and Japanese Ambassador Kobayashi: Celebrating the 2019 Rugby World Cup via Japan/NZ Sister Cities</b>	Te Manawa, New Zealand Rugby Museum

## Friday 22 March - Conference Day 2

From 8am	Registration	Foyer
9am	<b>Session 4: “Strategy to action”</b> - Presentations on the development and implementation of new city international relations frameworks	Conference Room
10am	<b>Session 5: Workshops</b> – topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency management</li> <li>Trade &amp; Business</li> <li>International education</li> <li>Community engagement &amp; exchange</li> <li>Youth development</li> </ul>	Breakout rooms
10:30am	Break	Gallery Room
11am	<b>Session 5 continued:</b> Workshop report back & conference discussion	Conference Room
11:30am	<b>Session 6: International environmental cooperation and knowledge exchange</b>	Conference Room
12:30pm	Lunch	Gallery Room
1:30pm	<b>Session 7: Māori and Indigenous exchange via Sister Cities</b> – Cultural, educational and business opportunities	Conference Room
2:30pm	<b>Session 8: Practical tools and resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2020 Olympics Host town initiative and 2021 World Masters Games – CLAIR presentation</li> <li>2020 China NZ Mayoral Forum update</li> <li>2020 Sister City NZ conference</li> </ul>	Conference Room
3:00pm	<b>Session 9: Mayoral panel</b> – The evolution of Sister Cities & local gov-ernment international relations	Conference Room
3:45pm	Break	Gallery Room
4pm	<b>SCNZ AGM</b> <b>Networking reception</b>	Seminar Room Council Link Span
6 - 9pm	Dinner guests arrive from 6pm <b>SCNZ Annual Dinner &amp; Air NZ Awards evening</b>	Elwood Room

## Saturday 23 March - Community Forum: Prosperity Through Cultural Diversity

9:30am	<b>Opening address:</b> MP Priyanca Radhakrishnan	Elwood Room
9:40am	<b>Keynote speaker:</b> Collaboration through Successful Intercultural Communication – Dr Udo Fluck (Missoula, Montana, USA)	Elwood Room
10:10am	<b>School &amp; Community presentations</b>	Elwood Room
10:50am	Light morning tea refreshments	Elwood Room
11:10am	<b>Korero 2019 – Youth dialogue</b>	
12:30pm	<b>Closing remarks</b>	

All conference guests free to enjoy the Festival of Cultures in The Square





## Registration Rates

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The electronic conference registration form can be accessed on the Sister Cities New Zealand website page under the “events” tab.

### Full Registration Rates (includes Awards Dinner)\*

\$750+ GST – Member - Council & Corporate (early bird, until Friday 1 March 2019)  
\$850+ GST – Member - Council & Corporate (standard rate, after Friday 1 March 2019)  
\$500+ GST – Member - School, Community, or Individual

\$850+ GST – Non-Member (early bird, until Friday 1 March 2019)  
\$950+ GST – Non-Member (standard rate, after Friday 1 March 2019)

\$300 – Students (ID required)

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### Single Day Registration Rates (does not include Awards Dinner)\*

\$300+ GST – Member (21 March)  
\$300+ GST – Member (22 March)  
\$150+ GST – Member (23 March)

\$400+ GST – Non-Member (21 March)  
\$400+ GST – Non-Member (22 March)  
\$200+ GST – Non-Member (23 March)

#### Student Rates

\$100 (21 March)  
\$100 (22 March)  
Free student entry for 23 March

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### Awards Dinner

\$100+GST – Single Awards Dinner Pass



# Accommodation Options

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SCNZ has pre-arranged a number of suggested accommodation options all within short walking distance of the conference venue. These options will have special discounts for Conference attendees, although you are free to pick your own accommodation options as well.

## Distinction Palmerston North

**\$179 – Tower Superior Rooms** - Room only

**\$199 – Tower Superior Rooms** - Plus bed and breakfast based on occupancy

**\$165 – Tower Standard Twin Rooms** - Room only

**\$185 – Tower Standard Twin Rooms** - Plus bed and breakfast based on occupancy

**Address:** 175 Cuba Street, Palmerston North

**Phone:** 06 355 5895

**Email:** [reservations@distinctionpalmerstonnorth.co.nz](mailto:reservations@distinctionpalmerstonnorth.co.nz)

**Website:** [www.distinctionhotelspalmerstonnorth.co.nz](http://www.distinctionhotelspalmerstonnorth.co.nz)

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## Copthorne Hotel Palmerston North

**\$145 – Superior Single Rooms** - Room only (single occupancy)

**\$165 – Superior Single Rooms** - Plus bed and breakfast (single occupancy)

**\$165 – Superior Double/Twin Rooms** - Room only (double/twin occupancy)

**\$185 – Superior Double/Twin Rooms** - Plus bed and breakfast (double/twin occupancy)

**Address:** 110 Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North

**Phone:** 06 356 8059

**Email:** [copthorne.palmerston@millenniumhotels.co.nz](mailto:copthorne.palmerston@millenniumhotels.co.nz)

**Website:** [www.millenniumhotels.com](http://www.millenniumhotels.com)

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For Reservations: Phone or email directly to the hotel and quote Sister Cities New Zealand Conference.  
*Note: all quotes include GST.*





# Conference Venue

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Conference & Function Centre  
354 Main Street,  
Palmerston North

## Key Contact

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For any enquiries please contact:

Jean Chua  
National Administrator - Sister Cities  
New Zealand  
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Council (Host City)*