



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

18 May 2012

VOLUME: 19 - 12

LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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See the new
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and let us know what
you think about it.
Are there any
suggestions that you
can make?

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Thank you

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

ELECTIONS

The elections are definitely on next month and the schedule we put in our newsletter two weeks ago is again inserted below for the benefit of members and potential voters.

2012 NATIONAL ELECTION - TENTATIVE TIMETABLE	
1. Issuc of Writs	18th May 2012
2. Close of Nominations	24th May 2012
3. Pollng Commences	23rd June, 2012
4. Polling Ends	06th July, 2012
5. Return of Writs	27th July, 2012

There have been rumours of a curfew over the election period, of which we have not had any information. If we do receive information about this or indeed any other information on election related events, we will certainly distribute it to members as soon as we are able to do so. We firmly believe that circulation of up to date information on these matters is vital.

There has been a significant amount of advice from many sources on the need to vote for the right candidate and that is our advice as well. PNG is at a critical point right now, and the elected members from these elections will guide the nation through a period of development the like of which the country has never seen before. With the right leaders we will see this development translated into the provision of a range of necessary services for the benefit of all the people in the nation. If the members that are elected are self centred and greedy individuals, PNG will see the wealth available to only a few elite with the bulk of the population missing out of disserving services.

The Lae voters must vote for candidates for the Lae and Regional electorates that they believe will carry forward the city's main problems to the Country's political forum. The Lae Roads cannot remain in a semi-completed state. The City is becoming more important as the conduit for supplies and infrastructural requirements to the resources areas. The efficiency of Lae's businesses depends on good roads, which means that the completion of the city roads is vital: this message must be raised and continually followed up at the nation's premier political forum, until something is done about it. If you are being courted for votes from candidates, you should insist on this as a criterion for them to elicit your vote! The illegal land deals in Lae City must also be an issue that is of topmost importance to all voters in these elections. Ask the candidates to promise to look into past deals, and stop further deals that have depleted this city of vital recreation facilities and playgrounds.

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**Lae Chamber of
Commerce Inc.
2012
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

President

Alan McLay

Snr Vice President

Nigel Merrick

Jnr Vice President

Robert Howden

Treasurer

Stephen Beach

Councillors

Philip Franklin

Peter Diezmann

Kaity Bluett

Dennis Brewster

Terry Fuary

Danny Kepi

Ben Woo

Andrew Gunn

Mike Quinn

Vanessa Chan Pelgen

Tony Wyatt

**Objectives
of the LCCI**

- To promote the business interests of the private sector;
- To further the economic development in Lae;
- To ensure the provision of services and utilities essential to such development;
- To provide a representative body for business people, which government can consult;
- To promote support or oppose legislation; or take any other measures to improve the business community;
- To provide a forum for discussion of private sector goals;
- To pool the strengths of business people so that together, they can accomplish tasks that each one alone cannot achieve;
- To promote the economic viability of the area, so those current businesses will grow and new ones will be developed locally;
- To provide business with a common voice.

LIQUOR BAN

Our representative on the Provincial Liquor Board has reported the following from a recent Board Meeting:

There is ample evidence that the liquor Ban in the Lae area is being frustrated by certain Lae retailers who pay selected licence holders from areas outside of the Lae banned area, to buy liquor from their own distributors.

A number of Licence holders from outside the ban area, have actually been caught "on selling" beer in bulk to buyers within Lae, and consequently their Licences have been forfeited.

The Chamber has been asked to request vigilance from those members who hold "distributor" Licences. In an effort to discourage any unlawful practice, please ask your staff to report to their supervisors any significant increases in orders, from those retailers outside Lae, which may be inconsistent with the normal course of business.

Your cooperation in this would be appreciated in the interests of the general Lae Community.

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Phone: (675) 321 5018, Fax: (675) 321 5017
Email: info@enterprisecentre.com.pg or
emmanuel.pindao@enterprisecentre.com.pg

RESCHEDULED 2012 ROADSHOW

This Road Show in Lae has been re-scheduled to now be held on Tuesday the **22nd May at the Lae International Hotel from 9:30am to 11:30am.**

As part of the Esso Highland National Content Plan, **IBBM Enterprise Centre** will be doing its 2012 Road Show. Last year (2011) the Enterprise Centre did the Road Show at Project Impacted Areas Upstream. This year it will focus on the main business centres in PNG. It will be an opportunity for local businesses in PNG to understand and know the scope of work **Exxon Mobil** is doing and how local businesses can benefit from such a project with the help of the Enterprise Centre as an established entity to manage and assist PNG local business to maximize their participation in the PNG LNG project and achieve global standards of business management.

IBBM ENTERPRISE CENTRE ROADSHOW LAE

We have already been contacted by interested participants, and we are still looking at approximately 50 - 80 members to register for this road show. There'll be morning coffee and tea with a lunch provided after the road show.

As such we anticipate working in partnership with Lae Chambers of Commerce. We believe that such initiatives will open the door for local businesses to participate proactively in business in the resource sector. Your participation is of course highly appreciated.



The Australia Pacific Technical College will be conducting **training promotional sessions** in Lae from **Monday the 21st to Wednesday the 23rd of May**. Trevor Birney and Rick Harper will be at the MELANESIAN Hotel for this period to provide an opportunity for the APTC to promote the training and scholarship opportunities available with the members of the Chamber of Commerce and stakeholders.

On Tuesday evening from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm, the APTC will provide finger foods and refreshments for interested representatives of business community in Lae and present a short overview of the training opportunities available with the College. This function is now to be held at the **MELANESIAN HOTEL**.

All members will be most welcome to attend. Please advise Wendie by reply email, phone (472 2340) or fax (472 6038).

2012 IBBM ENTERPRISE CENTRE ROAD SHOW

Lae International Hotel, Lae

15th May 2012

9:30 am -11:30 am

DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this registration form for each member to the President, Lae Chamber of Commerce Incorporated, or fax me a copy or email me. For more detail you call or email emmanuel.pindao@enterprisecentre.com.pg . Registration enquiries to Tiona – Tel (675) 321 5018 or fax on 3215017

DELEGATE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Position: _____

Company: _____

Postal Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Type of Business your company is currently engaged with:

AM Coffee and Tea will be provided and lunch refreshment will be served after the event.

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International Chamber of Commerce

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ICC takes transfer pricing and customs valuation

Paris, 14 May 2012

ICC recently issued a policy statement on “Transfer Pricing and Customs Valuation” aimed at supporting companies that face the challenge of determining the appropriate related party valuation of goods.

Check this on: <http://www.iccwbo.org/policy/taxation/index.html?id=48299>

Important message on crime and pre-cautions

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Email: mpss@datec.net.pg

"WITH OUR EXTENSIVE REPRESENTATION, WE ARE IN A POSITION TO MEET ALL YOUR CAR HIRE ARRANGEMENTS"

CRIME

We still have not put together any advisory information on precautions over the election period, but we will talk to authorities over the coming week to see if we can get a guideline of what to expect and put it out for member's interest.

Now that the writs have been issued we can expect a considerable amount of campaigning in Lae, with loudhailers on vehicles echoing campaign promises, music etc. There will also be political rallies and assembly of people listening to a whole range of campaigning and other election related issues. This will be disruption enough but we don't expect too much trouble from these sources.

What we do expect is an influx of people lured to Lae City by the excitement of the elections and perhaps the expectation of political handouts from candidates. With this influx there may be an increase in petty crimes and stealing. We therefore issue advice to members to be extra careful during this period. Workers, particularly the female workers, must be watchful at bus stops, for an increase in pick-pockets and bag snatchers. Be careful when driving around the city; lock all vehicle doors and avoid gatherings of people along the road particularly back roads. Householders must secure their residences when absent or keep someone in occupancy. We cannot rely on police for general policing during this period as in they will be tied up on electoral duties.



Visit the Lae International Hotel new website.

Book Online at www.laeinterhotel.com

For more information call us on phone 472 2000.

A FOCUS ON THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RESOURCE SECTOR

PNGREPORT

The latest edition for April/May 2012 of this magazine is now on display at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Read the reports on the HIDDEN GOLD TRADE, JUDICIAL BILL CONTROVERSY, BIG BAD AND UGLY FREIGHT and FREEDOM'S LAST STAND, when you get your free copy of this April/May edition, which can be reserved by contacting Wendie on 472 2340 or by emailing us at lcci@global.net.pg. or just come into the chambers and pick up your copy.

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BUSINESS ADVANTAGE INTERNATIONAL ANNOUNCE

'Made in PNG'

The second edition of 'Made in PNG' publication (www.madeinpng.com) is now in production and will be out at the end of August this year.

The flagship publication of PNG's manufacturing, agribusiness and downstream processing sectors has three aims:

1. showcase the best of PNG produce, both primary and processed
2. raise the profile of these sectors both within PNG and internationally
3. promote PNG exports to enhance the "Made in PNG" brand in the eyes of international buyers.

This publication is produced by Business Advantage International in partnership with the Manufacturers Council of PNG with the support of LCCI.

Paid advertising opportunities are available.

At the same time, producers are also encouraged to submit information and images about their products/commodities (editorial coverage is free of charge).

For more information contact Robert Hamilton-Jones on rhi@businessadvantageinternational.com or +61 3 9935 2977.

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The Lae Chamber of Commerce has an increasingly strong membership. Our services are distributed to our appreciative members on a regular basis.

We need your support to enable us to continue this service and make it even better.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

We are really happy to advise that 85% of our members have paid their 2012 membership subscriptions. This allows the Chamber of Commerce to continue to provide what we believe is a range of valuable services to members. We would like to remind those members who have for some reason forgotten to pay the 2012 fees, to do so before the end of this month.

Unfortunately we will have to cut off the provision of the Weekly News Update and regular Notices to members who have not paid the 2012 fees, as of 1st June this year. Please contact Wendie on 472 2340 or by return email if you have any queries about this outstanding payment.

PART 3 – BUSINESS SECURITY

The following questions are asked to find out what businesses feel and think about doing business in PNG considering the security aspects of its operations.

1. Has the law and order situation affected your decisions for further investment in your business or to expand your business operations? (Please mark with X)
 - a) very highly affected?
 - b) highly affected?
 - c) fairly affected?
 - d) highly unaffected?
 - e) completely unaffected?

2. Do you have confidence in the judicial system and the decisions they make?
 - a) very highly confident
 - b) highly confident
 - c) fairly confident
 - d) fairly not confident
 - e) highly not confident
 - f) completely not confident

3. How much of a problem are the following crimes to your business? (Please mark with X where suitable)

	Not a problem	A small problem	A big problem
a) Break-ins			
b) Vandalism			
c) Vehicle theft			
d) Property theft without force			
e) Arson (Burning of premises)			
f) Assault of employees on the business premises			
g) Kidnapping of employees			
h) Employees suffering violence/ being attacked on the way to and from the business premises			
i) Misappropriation of funds or petty theft by Employees			
j) Extortion			
k) Threats by any government official			
l) Other (please specify)			