



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

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LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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(Newly updated)

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I Luv Lae Stickers

Thank you

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK DON'T FORGET OUR CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

Come and join us at the Lae Chambers of Commerce Christmas Function

Where: HUON CLUB
When: Thursday 8th December
Time: between 5:30 to 8:00 pm

All members and their spouses are invited to attend this function, which is a great opportunity for networking with other business executives. Finger foods will be served with beer and wine. Please make your booking with Wendie at the Chamber office on telephone 4722340, or by fax on 472 6038 or by return email.

LAE CHAMBERS HIV/AIDS PROJECT

In 2009, the Lae Chamber was able to secure funding from the Asian Development Bank through the Swedish Cooperation Fund (SIDA) to start a three year project known as "Mobilising the Private Sector to Respond to Gender and HIV and AIDS Issues". The production of the **Guidelines for Workplace Action to Reduce HIV and AIDS**, marked the start of many tasks the Chamber has undertaken in this project. The Guidelines are designed to help organisations decide on what steps they should take to introduce a workplace policy into their company.

Although our Project is linked to the development of the Lae Ports, it extends beyond to all companies in Lae that could face devastation if HIV and AIDS continue to spread exponentially throughout the Province, as is now happening. We believe that to restrict the circulation of these **Guidelines** to the Chamber's members only would be to deny many businesses and other organisations the opportunity to access this crucial information. Hence we framed it to include non-member organisations so that they too can benefit from our efforts against the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

This seems to have led to criticism of the LCCI for competing against BAHA (Business Coalition Against Aids) in the major battle against HIV and AIDS for the Private Sector. This is an unfortunate viewpoint as at all times the LCCI has always acknowledged the importance of the role that BAHA plays. Right from the introduction in the Workplace Guidelines we acknowledged the work of BAHA viz: "These LCCI Guidelines are intended to support the work of BAHA in two ways. They can help to raise awareness among employers of the need to create their own workplaces policies, and they can assist companies and organisations to sustain their efforts at implementation once their policy has been adopted."

Further information on the work of BAHA, and the supportive role of the LCCI is given in chapters 8 and 9. The PNG Business Coalition Against HIV and AIDS (BAHA) represents the formal private sector response to HIV. BAHA is a not-for-profit organisation, directed by a board of private sector interest groups and major sponsors. It works in line with the National AIDS Council's **National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS 2006-2010** and **National Gender Policy and Plan on HIV and AIDS 2006-2010**.

BAHA's strategy in managing the impact of HIV is the development and implementation of HIV workplace policies and programmes. Since its inception in 2007, BAHA has helped over 230 companies develop workplace policies and programmes, trained over 750 employees in HIV programme implementation and led public awareness of HIV in the workplace through its newsletters, website and campaigns. Work countrywide is coordinated from Port Moresby by a team of eleven staff and two in Lae for the

**Lae Chamber of
Commerce Inc.**

2011

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**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.

Momase region. BAHA has been funded mostly by the PNG private sector with some support from AusAID (these figures were provided by BAHA at the time of production of the LCCI's Guidelines and are now out of date).

The Role of BAHA

BAHA's work focuses on:

- Leadership and partnership initiatives within the private sector;
- Workplace policy development services, with emphasis on vulnerability issues at the workplace that contribute to the spread of HIV;
- Policy implementation and support activities;
- Training, monitoring and certification of HIV policy and programmes for private sector staff;
- Information, education, and communication materials (including an electronic newsletter and interactive databases);
- BAHA promotions such as World AIDS Week, Wear RED Days, Red Ribbons;
- workplace access to PEP for HIV; condom distribution; and the BAHA
- toll-free information phone-line.
- Other activities are:
 - Business executive briefings;
 - Policy awareness with employees;
 - Regional Tokauts;
 - HIV education and workplace innovation awards;
 - Annual calendar;
 - Industry-specific campaigns such as HIV-Smart Hotels, aviation, mining, shipping, security, and Red Bucket Hosts (condom distribution).

Further information can be obtained from www.baha.com.pg.

This section on BAHA was supplied by BAHA's Port Moresby head office at the request of the LCCI.

The role of LCCI

Lae's Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest in Papua New Guinea, with membership numbers nearing two hundred and Fifty. It has been representing private sector interests in Lae City and Morobe Province since 1959. In January 2009 it began to implement, at the invitation of the Asian Development Bank, a project to mobilize the private sector to respond to gender and HIV and AIDS issues, in connection with the major development and expansion of Lae Ports.

One of the Project's tasks is to develop and promote these good practice **Guidelines for workplaces on HIV and AIDS**. The Chamber offers the following free services to support companies and organisations in adopting these **Guidelines**, and in working with BAHA to develop their own workplace policies.

- Initial contacts with key individuals, especially in the private sector;
- In-house briefings and public presentations to executives and senior management to orient them to the **Guidelines** and its components;
- Liaison with BAHA and other organisations to train nominated employees;
- Liaison with BAHA for assistance in drafting a workplace policy;
- In-house briefings with middle management on implementing workplace activities on HIV and AIDS, STIs and VAW;
- Assistance with establishing appropriate methods of condom distribution;
- Facilitation of training for peer educators;
- Provision of supplementary materials to support a workplace policy, such as information on policies and procedures on sexual harassment, and domestic violence issues affecting the workplace; leaflets, posters, stickers, CDs/DVDs, and other materials on various aspects of the AIDS epidemic relevant to the workplace, as needed (see Annex 5).
- Linkages with other organisations providing information, training or services related to reducing the spread and impact of HIV and AIDS

The Lae Chamber of Commerce has a policy of working with all Private Sector organizations for a better go for the Private Sector. Everyone in the Private sector has a major role to play, if we are to contain and reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS.

For further information about the Chambers project or for a copy of the Workplace guidelines, contact Nellie on kaul16@live.com or visit the LCCI Website on www.lcci.org.pg.



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For more information call us on phone 472 2000.

UNREST IN LAE CITY

We have seen Lae City and surrounding areas return to a fairly peaceful existence over the last week. During the week the two McGregor Mobile Units returned to Port Moresby but the Police numbers were maintained with the arrival of the Lae based Mobile 13 and the Bulolo based Unit, from their stint in Kutubu.

There are still tensions in the settlements with the Morobe people and the Highland people continuing to have issues from the fray nearly a month ago.

As far as the Morobe Community is concerned, they still need to bury their dead and go through the customary formalities involved with the "haus kraiss" etc. Funding has been arranged to assist the funeral arrangements, by the Haggai Joshua Peace & Reconciliation Committee, set up by the Morobe Provincial Government. These people however are hesitant to go ahead with the burial arrangements, whilst the points that they made on their petition to the Governor on 4th November remain unresolved. There is a feeling that there has not been a sincere attempt to address these concerns by the Morobe Provincial Government.

The Highlands Community that lost their houses and livelihoods due the conflict, continue to live as refugees at the gates of the Igam Army barracks. The Haggai Joshua Peace & Reconciliation Committee has arranged for some of these displaced people to return to their Provinces, but the majority are still at the refugee camp, where they are dependent on relatives and fellow highlanders to assist them. The business community has again dug deep in their pockets to assist these people with food, water and other supplies.

There is a committee that has been formed from the affected Morobe people at Bumayong, calling themselves the Morobe Peace and Order Committee. This group have been keeping in constant touch with the Lae Chamber of Commerce, with promises that the Morobe Community from the Bumayong area will not cause any further trouble in Lae. They have written a follow-up letter today to advise that they have arranged to hand a petition to a representative of the Prime Minister, together with a team of Morobe Parliamentarians on Monday next week. Whilst we do not doubt the sincerity of this committee, and we appreciate their desire to peacefully handle this delicate issue, we have asked them to go to the Morobe Peace and Reconciliation Committee, to certify their legitimacy. The Police are still maintaining vigil on this group at Bumayong.

Other "Committees" have approached the LCCI for various forms of support, and all have been turned away. It appears that the recent conflict has brought out so many groups and self appointed committees, which is confuses the issue as some have obvious questionable motives.



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CITY UNREST (CONT)

We believe that now is the time for everyone to work together to take a long look at the problems that caused the conflict in the first place and to work at finding the solutions to make the city a better place to live in and ultimately do business in. Some of the issues that need to be addressed with some urgency are:

1. Get rid of the street vendors and hawkers. The City Council has the laws in place to take appropriate action against these illegal traders – they also have a fairly large Community Policing Unit, who should now be actively getting rid of these unwanted street people;
2. Get rid of street gangs that were responsible for so much trouble before the conflict began, especially at bus stops, the Eriku and Main Market areas;
3. Look at evicting illegal and unwanted settlers in the Urban and peri-urban areas;
4. Build up the Police Force and better equip them to be more effective in their battle against all types of crime.
5. Work with the Landowners to mobilize their land in a more formal way, so that there is better control over the settlements.

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DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM THESE COMPANIES

We have pointed out over the last month, the spontaneous donations from Lae business houses to support the out of town Police Mobile Units, and more recently the displaced people living at the Igam Gates. The list of donations has grown to the following:

Tablebirds	10 Cartons Chicken pieces, 10 Carton fresh eggs
Laga Industries	20 Cartons of bottled water 5 x 200 ltr drums Purified Water with Pumps
Nestle	20 Cartons Maggie Noodles, 20 Cartons Milo
Islands Petroleum	8 Cartons Coca Cola, Carton Water, Coffee, Tea & Sugar
Telikom PNG	2 Citifons, 5 Wireless Phones, Top up Cards
IFC	40 Cartons of 200 gms Besta Tinned Fish
Trukai Industries	2 Ton of Roots Rice
Niugini Works	2 Cartons Biscuits, 1 Carton Water
Associated Mills	1 Bag Plain Flour, 10 Cartons Twisties Cheese & Onion
Homestate	Large Pot of Cooked Rice & Tinned Fish, 200 Lunch Packs
NCS	10 Cartons Bottled Water, 1 Carton Powdered Cordial Sunshine Powdered Milk, Ramu Sugar, Teabags 1 Carton Diana Tinned Fish
Digicel	Flex Cards for Mobile Phones
Coca Cola	2 Pallets of Water, 2 Pallets SPC Products, 1 Carton Cordial Powder
K K Kingston	10 x 24 Pk Toilet Paper, 360 btl's Gold n Sun Cooking Oil 3 x 25 Cartons of Gold Nuggets
National Rice Distributers	50 Bags Rice, 50 Cartons Noodles, 15 Cartons Assorted
21C Limited	4 cartons soft drinks, 5 Cartons snacks biscuits
Lae Biscuits	30 cartons snacks biscuits for displaced, people at Igam
Paradise Bakery	10 Cartons Biscuits, 10 Cartons Gold Nuggets
Nestle (2 nd donation)	10 Ctn Nescafe Coffee, 10 Ctn Milo, 4 Ctn Maggi Noodles
Mapai Transport	K5,000 for Police Communication equipment
Morobe Mining JV	10 Carton Frozen Chicken, 10 Cartons Ox & Palm C/Beef 10 Cartons Besta Mackerel in Natural Oil
Zenag Chicken	5 Cartons Chicken Pieces, 5 Cartons Eggs

List of donations from companies during and after the disturbances in Lae

lae road report

We advise that the information on the road-works is provided to be used as a guide and is based on the latest advice from the Project Engineers, the contractors and from regular road inspections by the LCCI.

The LCCI cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information as a change in weather conditions may mean that plans have to be altered, or contractors have to meet other obligations.

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UPDATE ON THE LAE ROAD WORKS

LAE ROADS

The road project is still affected by the temporary closure of the Cement Factory for two weeks and the ongoing problems with supply of cement. The PNG TAIHEIYO Management has been able to honour their commitment to distribute cement from the factory, and to start producing cement again, giving priority to customers related to Lae Road Projects. A problem during the week caused by unexpected power disruptions caused further stoppages in cement production.

As mentioned last week, the LCCI still has a problem with the dangerous and poorly located pedestrian crossings that have been erected on some of the roads throughout the city. These crossings have been done in white paint, which is very hard to distinguish from the whitish colour of the cement finish, making them very dangerous. The crossings are even more dangerous in late afternoons and at night, when they are hardly distinguishable from the road surface at all. With few signs and no lights to see pedestrians at night, these crossings will be the scene of accidents if they are left the way they are.

On Monday the Engineers will take the City Engineer on a tour of all roads, and a plan will be put in place to have proper pedestrian crossings installed

1. Roads currently being upgraded:

- Central Ave (bus stop) - Cameron Construction. Cameron have progressed very little during the week due to a lack of cement.
- Coronation Drive, Seventh and Fourth Street - Shorncliffe.
The town end of Fourth Street has been opened for traffic to park on the completed cement section. The section from Central Ave to Huon Road is now ready for concreting. The contractors state that the whole road works will be finished by 16th December, 2011.
- Huon Road at Eriku - R & Sons. Work is continuing but was slowed down due to the cement problem. The contractor states that the work will be complete by 16th December 2011.

2. New Contracted Roads:

- Sandpiper Road - Dekenai Construction - Little progression has been made on this road due to cement problems.
- Roundabout at Foodmart Supermarket - The contractor East West No.1 is now concreting ½ of the Huon Road side and all of the 7th Street side.
- Markham Road from Chinatown to Stadium and onto the junction with Milfordhaven Road - East West No.1. Stone pitched drainage works is continuing.
- Bumbu Road from Kwila Rd to Kamkumung Bridge - FTM Const (Asphalt). Line drains are continuing.



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PNG RESOURCES

Reporting on PNG'S Petroleum & Mineral Industry
ISSUE THREE 2011

Just arrived the latest PNG Resources Magazine is brimming with more information on the **PNG Petroleum & Mineral Industry**. Please get in early for your free copy at the LCCI Office or contact Wendie to reserve a copy for you.

A FOCUS ON THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA RESOURCE SECTOR

PNGREPORT

The new edition of this newly produced magazine that we were expecting arrived today. It is now on display at the Lae Chamber of Commerce. Your free copy of this November edition can be reserved by contacting Wendie on 472 2340 or by emailing us at lcci@global.net.pg.



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SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUND FORUM

The Sovereign Wealth Forum that was deferred from last week will now be held on **Thursday 8th December 2011** at the Lae International Hotel.

This forum is important for a better understanding on why the creation of this fund is considered essential by the Government for the future of PNG.

If you cannot attend the forum then we ask you to consider sending a senior member of your staff so that he or she can return and explain the fund to other interested staff members.

You can register with Waira Sam at waira_sam@treasury.gov.pg or contact Mr. Sioni Ioa on 312 8848.

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Back again by popular demand the "I LUV LAE" Sticker

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The Lae Chamber of Commerce is pleased to be involved in round 2 of this initiative. The first batch of Stickers went so fast, that we have been inundated with requests to organise a re-issue. This is now your chance to obtain your personalized company sticker:



It has been ten years since the last "I love LAE" project, during that time the town has been through a rollercoaster ride of up's and downs, mostly downs of late, so it is time to say something positive.

Lets us see a message on the back of every car in town saying "I love Lae" if we all work together we can send this positive message to the whole community. Lae is our home and where we make our living, so for better or worse we need to show the old girl that we support her.

Individuals, business houses, NGO's and service providers are all invited to join in and promote themselves, the town and the PNG Red Cross Society (*10% of the gross goes directly to the very worthwhile organisation*)

Here's the deal, you buy the sticker in batches of 500-1000-1500-2000, the more you buy the cheaper they are. You then give them away to customers, clients or friends and they in turn spread the message "We all Love Lae"

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1500	---	K2900	cost per sticker	K1.93
2000	---	K3600	cost per sticker	K1.80

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