



LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

15 June 2012

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LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

ELECTIONS

The 2012 elections POLLING SCHEDULES for the **Lae Urban Area** that we published in the News Update last week have now been posted to our website. If you missed getting your copy or want to refer to these schedules please visit our website at www.lcci.org.pg.

There is a lot of confusion as to the actual Polling date for Lae. Whilst polling starts throughout the nation on Saturday 23rd June 2012, the actual Polling day for the Lae Urban elections will be held only on –

Tuesday 26th June 2012.

The Polling hours will be from **8 AM to 6 PM.**

The Lae Urban areas include voting for the three open electorates:

1. Lae
2. Nawae - Malahang and Bumayong areas
3. Huon – extends as far as 11 mile and Awilunga Estate

The Electoral Commission has requested that Companies allow staff time off to perform their voting duties on the polling day of Tuesday June 26th, and suggest either the full morning or afternoon be allowed for this.

Index

In this Issue
**From the
President's Desk**

Important Election News

Morobe Provincial Physical Planning Board

LCCI New Website

LCCI News Alert

Thank you

YOUR SECURITY DURING THE ELECTIONS

Joint action by both the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and the PNG Defence Force during the elections should be able to handle the elections and election related incidences in Lae City. The Police with the extra Defence Force personnel will be in a good position to keep Lae as peaceful as possible during the election period.

As the elections in the Lae Urban area will be held over one day only, and with the beefed up security, we do not expect any large scale election related issues. As normal there will likely be squabbles between candidates and their supporters, but the Police should be able to contain these, and control major out-breaks if they occur.

We will continue to meet with the Police to get an update on their action and any reported problems and we will advise members accordingly.



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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.

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MOROBE PROVINCIAL PHYSICAL PLANNING BOARD (MPPPB)

About 15 years ago, Morobe Province was the first Province to obtain a full Provincial Physical Planning Board, after 5 years of successfully operating a Physical Planning Advisory Committee. This was a very positive step, as Lae City was starting to expand and it was too cumbersome to send all planning matters to the National Physical Planning Board in Port Moresby. The MPPPB was very effective and made some difficult but good rulings and set in place some excellent Policies.

In 2009 the membership of the MPPPB was changed with the appointment of an irregular Chairman, as well as a non-Chamber member to the reserved Chamber position. Several appeals by the LCCI to the Governor and the Provincial Executive Council fell on deaf ears, even though our case was supported in writing by the Chief Physical Planner (CPP).

Eventually after some very dubious decisions, the Minister for Lands and Physical Planning suspended the MPPPB in October last year. Since the suspension all planning matters have been referred to the National Physical Planning Board, which clogs up the National Board and delays decisions on Morobe Provincial matters. The suspension has remained in place as the MPG has ignored several requests by the CPP to resolve the differences over the structure of the MPPPB.

This week a meeting was held with all stakeholders in attendance. The Chief Physical Planner had travelled to Lae to specifically state his willingness to delegate his powers to a Committee of appropriate appointees, for all planning matters affecting Lae Urban area and the Morobe Province. A resolution was made to send a letter to the Chief Physical Planner naming the committee representatives and formally requesting his delegation of physical planning powers. It was acknowledged that this committee was only an interim one with advisory powers but the establishment was welcomed as it will keep all local Physical Planning matters within the Province, until the full board is re-established.

The CPP also highlighted the need to revise the Lae Urban Development plan, to take into consideration the recent developments and future expansion plans, especially in the Nadzab development corridor area. The CPP tasked the newly formed committee to commence formulating this Plan.



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ISSUE 1 2012 – is newly arrived and available to you

Read about –

**The Petroleum Club returns
BHP pulls out of exploration bid
Ela Motors 50 years in PNG**

Please contact Wendie on 472 2340 to book your free copy or just call into the
Chamber.

LCCI WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

*The LCCI newly re-
vamped WEBSITE is
up and running.*

*It is located at
www.lcci.org.pg*

*The website is easier
to use with more
useful information
and provides some
easy to use tools
that you will find
very handy for your
business.*

LCCI WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Our new LCCI website is nearing completion and many of the suggestions on changes and finetuning have been implemented. It is looking good.

Kuakawa Solutions a Sydney based company with strong PNG links has provided a most helpful service to develop this site.

The **LCCI MEMBERS SECTION** provides a list of member companies with links to their own website. We are finalising a spreadsheet with full details of members that will be posted to the website.

An analysis of visits to the website, show a substantial increase in May and June which obviously coincides with the promotion through this news letter.

Please send any further comments or suggestions on the website direct to our email address – lcci@global.net.pg. The website is at www.lcci.org.pg.

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ICC News Alert

Certificates of Origin



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

Chambers establish global standards in Certificates of Origin

Paris, 14 June 2012

Trade documentation specialists, from chambers of commerce from more than 20 countries, set in motion a series of global initiatives and projects during their recent meeting on 6 June in Paris, reinforcing their central role in helping business do international trade.

Note: PNG Customs accepts the PNG Chamber of Commerce Certificates of Origin, which are issued in by your Lae Chamber of Commerce. The CoO is required for all export items.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/wcf/index.html?id=48612>

Europe needs ACTA

Brussels, 12 June 2012

We represent thousands of companies and workers in Europe's innovative, manufacturing and creative sectors and we believe that Europe needs the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) to support economic growth and jobs.

<http://www.iccwbo.org/bascap/index.html?id=48571>

Still on hand are a few PNG REPORT April/May edition.

Collect your copy before we run out

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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