

7 December 2012

#### LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

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Thank you

# LAE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.

# WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

**VOLUME: 47 - 12** 

## FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

The Christmas function was held at the Huon Club on Wednesday and over 60 people were in attendance. All enjoyed themselves over a few drinks and snacks.

It is a good opportunity for the members to network with others in similar positions to discuss a wide range of issues, not in the least the way business is operated in Lae and the difficulties that we all face.

It was really great to see Hans and Thea Mehl at this function, and to hear the stories of their horrible ordeal at the hands of a ruthless group of thugs in the early hours of Sunday. Thea put together a few words of appreciation for the support that they have received from the business community -

Would you be able to put in the newsletter that we thank everyone for their best wishes, support and help. It has made a lot of difference to us and has helped us to keep on going.

To-day is Hans' birthday and we thank the lord he made this one, it could have been so different.

Our son Leon has arrived which is terrific too especially as Air Niugini made extra effort to find him a seat as early as possible.

Today's newspaper refers to 200 consultants to be made available by the Australian Government to assist with the operation of 89 Districts. Sir Puk Temu stated that, "Building capacity does not come in one day but comes over time but what we have secured in this Forum (Australia – PNG Ministerial Forum) is for core funded positions like district administrators and district treasurers to be filled so we can co-fund the program – the PNG Government to pay base salary and the Australian government to pay other allowances".

The editorial in the Post Courier wrongly declared that the Australian Government will be putting Kiaps into 89 districts. I really don't think this is what is going to be attempted and that it is probably a loose interpretation by the newspaper.

The old Kiap system really worked very well pre Independence as it was basically a cheap and effective means of administering and delivering services in the Districts and the rural areas in particular from what was in those days a very scant budgetary allocation. It is doubtful that the system could be reintroduced.

I believe that what the Australian Government really wants to do is to assist to establish proper controls in the district for a more effective management and service delivery system in the districts. To do this they will deploy officers with the appropriate skills to affect the controls and train the PNG counterparts on how to do it properly. This will be a difficult task and I don't envy these officers in the job they will take on, as they will need to change the bad habits that have developed since Independence, in all the public service not only at the District level.



Lae Chamber of Commerce Inc. 2012 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

<u>President</u> Alan McLay

Snr Vice President

Nigel Merrick

Jnr Vice President Robert Howden

<u>Treasurer</u> Stephen Beach

- <u>Councillors</u>
- Philip Franklin Peter Diezmann Kaity Bluett Dennis Brewster Terry Fuery Danny Kepi Ben Woo Andrew Gunn Mike Quinn Vanessa Chan Pelgen Robert Hansen

#### 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



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## Subject: ROAD CLOSE FOR CONSTRUCTION - MARKHAM ROAD

We would like to advise your office and the business houses along the Markham Road Section from Huon-Markham Road Junction to Airways Avenue-Markham Road Junction for the following listed works to be completed in a limited time frame given by the Department of Works. The closure of the road is estimated for a month which you will be updated from time to time on our progressive reports.

#### Works:

Removal of old culvert and Installation of new culvert Construction of kerb Construction of line drain Preparation of road base Priming, sealing and asphalt overlay

The traffic diversion plan is attached for your reference.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused during this period. For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the following personnel.

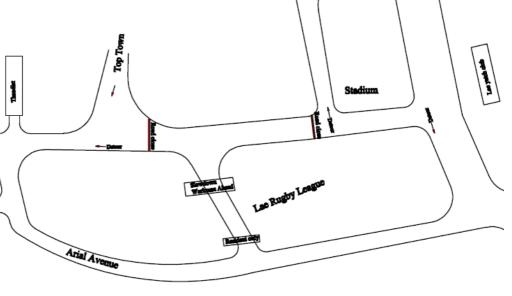
Department of Works - Mr. Gibson Holambe East West (1) Limited -Mr. Clarence Kekeram Project Surveyor East West (1) Limited-Mr. Ngamanath Sanjel Project Enginee

Project Engineer7204 9212 7282 5778 7120 9921

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Yours Faithfully

Mr. Ngamanath Sanjel-Project Engineer East West (1) Limited



#### CLOSURE TO THE HIGH-LANDS HIGH-WAY

Notice - the National Roads Authority wishes to advise all Business Houses and the Travelling Public that due to urgent maintenance works on the Kudjip portion of the Highlands Highway, there will be a total road closure on the 9th of December (Sunday) from

06:00am to 06:00pm to allow for the erection of a temporary bridge crossing over a failed culvert which is being replaced.

The road will be reopened to all traffic immediately after the works are completed, however with changed site conditions.

Set aside the morning of Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December for this IMPORTANT EVENT!



## MARKHAM ROAD (Cont) - CHAMBERS COMMENT

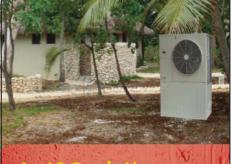
We have pointed out to the road contractors that it was unnecessary to cut down all the rain trees that once beautified this section of Markham Road. EW engineers claim that they only followed instructions from the supervising engineers (DOW) due to obstructions for road safety and long lasting construction. EW has agreed that new trees will be planted for road beautification

This is a bit of a cop out as it was easier to lop all the trees than the ones that may have caused a problem. We have made out position clear on this for the future, but unfortunately the trees are gone. We want to be told about future destruction of the trees. Also we have asked about what type of trees are going to replace the ones that were removed.

We also consider one month closure for the construction and sealing of this section as being too long as the seal will be in bitumen and so there is no time needed to cure the surface.

We do however appreciate the Traffic Management notice and look forward to receiving these in future.





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International Chamber of Commerce News Alert





International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

ICC lecture series advances IP proficiency in Russia Saint Petersburg, Russia, 6 December 2012

The first in a four-part series of ICC lectures on intellectual property (IP) took place last Friday in Saint Petersburg State University.

http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/ICC-lecture-series-advances-IP-proficiencyin-Russia/

Business leaders deliver private sector trade priorities to WTO Geneva, 6 December 2012

Business leaders presented to World Trade Organization (WTO) permanent ambassadors and representatives, at WTO headquarters in Geneva today, their initial recommendations for driving international trade negotiations out of an 11-year deadlock and boosting the global economy.

http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/Business-leaders-deliver-private-sector-tradepriorities-to-WTO/

Debate on environmental taxation yields proposed principles at UN climate conference

Doha, 5 December 2012

On the sidelines of the UN Climate Change Conference in Doha, representatives from business, UN, government and other stakeholder groups engaged in discussions on the role of fiscal instruments in environmental policy-making with the objective of identifying principles for a framework for environmental taxation and environment-related tax measures that promote green, inclusive economies.

http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/Debate-on-environmental-taxation-yields-proposed-principles-at-UN-climate-con! ference/

ICC issues new how-to guide for self-regulation of online behavioural advertising Paris, 4 December 2012

ICC has produced a tool to help companies and trade associations self-regulate online behavioural advertising (OBA) using global principles published in the Consolidated ICC Code of Advertising and Marketing Communications Practice in 2011.

http://www.iccwbo.org/News/Articles/2012/ICC-issues-new-how-to-guide-for-self-regulation-! of-online-behavioural-advertising/

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### The good news for HIV in Papua New Guinea

On World AIDS Day, Dr Geoff Clark, AusAID PNG's Program Director for Health and HIV, blogged about the successes and challenges of the fight against HIV/AIDS in PNG.

Read Dr Clark's blog about HIV in PNG



Chamber of Commerce. Read the reports on the **ENERGY COSTS** and Fuel and Energy explored, **RESOURCE NATIONALISM** – the elusive fair deal, **DUTCH DISEASE** – getting crunched and **EXPLORER UPDATES** – Clive Palmer and more, when you get your free copy of this edition, which can be reserved by contacting Jenna on 472 2340 or by emailing us at <u>info@lcci.org.pg</u> or just come into