



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO
Te Kōwhiri Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO



Director-General of UNESCO Dr Irina Bokova (centre) visiting New Zealand.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Fourteen months after his appointment as the Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO, Mr Ian McKinnon, CNZM, QSO looks back over the highlights.

I am very pleased to write this introduction to the NZ National Commission for UNESCO Annual Review 2014. The Annual Review gives an insight into the work in which the NZ National Commission and Secretariat have been involved, sometimes as the lead agency of the various projects and events reported here, certainly often in a facilitation role and, too, at times in organisation, funding and other support. All such work, of course, relates to the vision of UNESCO and the role the NZ National Commission exercises in implementing that vision.

2014 has been a year of challenges for the NZ National Commission but it has always been aware of its role and the responsibility which that brings. UNESCO's vision is to contribute 'to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue through education, the sciences, culture, communication and information'. The NZ National Commission contributes through the 'development of UNESCO programmes and strategic priorities', doing so within a New Zealand and Pacific context.

In the latter part of 2014, the Secretary General, Ms Elizabeth Rose, and I had the privilege of meeting Dr Irina Bokova, (pictured above) Director-General of UNESCO, when she was passing through New Zealand.

The challenges faced by the National Commission are not dissimilar to the challenges faced by UNESCO itself: promoting the vision of UNESCO within resources available; accepting there are now a number of specialised agencies focussing on areas once almost exclusively with UNESCO.

To ensure the National Commission holds to the vision of UNESCO in the support it gives organisations, six strategic priorities reflecting that vision were established. Further, the

Promoting peace and social justice in NZ and the Pacific through education, the sciences, culture, and the free exchange of ideas

Te whakatairanga i te maungārongo me te tika ā-tangata ki Aotearoa, ki te Moana nui ā Kiwa hoki – mā te mātauranga, mā ngā pūtaiao, mā te ahurea me te whakawhitiwhiti whakaaro kore here

SECRETARIAT BIDS FAREWELL TO SUSAN ISAACS



Susan Isaacs, a longstanding member of the NZ National Commission Secretariat was farewelled in August 2014.

Susan had worked for the Secretariat for over ten years managing programmes across a range of UNESCO mandate areas. Susan's particular passion was the promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in a New Zealand context. This included fostering conversations, opportunities and connections across a broad and deep network of individuals and organisations both nationally and internationally.

Susan's contribution is very much missed by the NZ National Commission, its Secretariat and many stakeholders with whom she has worked. We wish her all the very best for her future endeavours.

DELEGATION TAKES AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND AND PACIFIC TO JAPAN

A contingent of New Zealand representatives attended two inter-connected international UNESCO education events in Japan in November.

At the first event, the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the city of Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, Tina Ngata from Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Dr Betsan Martin from United Nations University Waikato Regional Centre of Expertise, Dr Timote Vaoleti from the Faculty of Education, University of Waikato and Associate Professor Sandra Morrison from the School of Māori and Pacific Development, University of Waikato – with support from the NZ National Commission, joined over 1,000 participants from around the globe.

Under the banner of “Learning Today for a Sustainable Future”, the conference celebrated the achievements of the end of the UN Decade of ESD (2005-2014), identified lessons learnt and set the stage for the future of ESD.



The New Zealand Delegation L-R: Dr Timote Vaoleti, Professor Sandy Morrison, Tina Ngata and Dr Betsan Martin

WHAT IS ESD?

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is an umbrella for many forms of education that recognise that society's current knowledge base does not contain the solutions to contemporary and future global environmental, societal and economic problems.

As well as incorporating key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning such as climate change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption, ESD promotes participatory teaching and learning styles that empower learners to take action for sustainable development by using critical thinking, imagining future scenarios and making decisions in a collaborative way.

The overall goal of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) was to integrate the principles, values and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning.

THE CONFERENCE

The World Conference highlighted the role of ESD as a catalyst for cross-sector planning and implementation of programmes in areas such as climate change, biodiversity and disaster risk reduction. It also facilitated discussion,

workshops, fora and presentations addressing how ESD can help move sustainable development policy and action forward to meet different global, regional, national, and local needs.

Betsan said that the Māori, Pacific/Tonga and Pakeha team highlighted indigenous approaches to sustainability, including a focus on the Oceania region – a unique perspective which may have been inadequately represented without the team's presence.

The New Zealand contingent's contribution and engagement – both within the conference setting and in extra-mural meetings was very warmly received, with resulting new partnerships, knowledge-sharing opportunities and collaborative activities planned for the future.

Reflecting on the conference, Betsan, Timote, Tina and Sandra agreed that people are the greatest resource for new ways of thinking and giving expression to our responsibilities for each other.

“ESD is the pathway to open up a new age of sustainability, being ushered in by climate change and

natural disasters. Vanishing species, access to water, water management, food security, urbanization, poverty, all pose opportunities for new ways of thinking, new systems for social inclusion and opportunities for economic innovation and vitality.”

The conference also saw the launch of the UNESCO Global Action Programme (GAP) on ESD which aims to capitalise upon the achievements of the decade and create further momentum and opportunities for growth post 2014.

To implement the GAP plan, a roadmap with concrete examples of how member states can commit to achieving ESD goals across all sectors of society was tabled.

In its foreword, UNESCO’s Director-General Irina Bokova says that today’s interconnected global challenges demand responses that are rooted in the spirit of our collective humanity.

“I believe that the risks and opportunities we face call for a paradigm shift that can only be embedded in our societies through education and learning.”

ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS PROJECT NETWORK (ASPNET)

Meanwhile, 330 kilometres away in Okayama Prefecture, Libby Giles, Global Citizenship Facilitator, from Auckland Girls’ Grammar School and four of her senior students, had been attending the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) International ESD Events which included:

- an exchange day with eight local school communities
- an ASPnet Platform for Students
- an ASPnet Platform for Teachers
- Japan’s National UNESCO ASPnet Conference.

With support from the NZ National Commission, the young people took part in interactive sessions around the theme of sustainable societies, sharing their ideas, concerns and perspectives with other young people from around the world, whilst teachers and educators shared best-practice and collaborated on how they could continue to promote ESD principles beyond 2014.

The students drafted their own Joint Declaration which was shared at the World Conference on ESD.

Reflecting on the rich and diverse experiences, including cultural and social activities that she and the students enjoyed during their stay, Libby says that the value the NZ National Commission places on creating and enabling space for dialogue was realised many times over with new relationships, conversations and future activities flowing out of the one visit.

“I know that my students will bring back an understanding beyond any they could have learned from afar.”

One of those students, Jolie Lam (Year 12), says that the conference experience was extremely valuable, both because of the international friendships she made during her visit which have given her more confidence in her school and personal life — as well as the talks and knowledge-sharing she experienced around sustainability.

“The UNESCO ESD conference united the next generation

“Attending the UNESCO ESD and ASPnet events in Japan opened my eyes to the opportunities and desire students have to make sustainable improvements in their countries. It has inspired me to continue to promote New Zealand’s, specifically Auckland’s role in the Asia-Pacific region. Through the conference I have met hundreds of young leaders, some of which I am still in contact with today. I gained a global perspective and learned how different countries are, yet how similar young people are in their aspirations for the future of the globe.”

(Gabrielle Kerridge-Temm, Year 12, from Auckland Girls’ Grammar School, reflecting on her experience attending the ASPnet and UNESCO DESD global conference in Japan, 2014.)

of our world, to unlock the potential we have to tackle the global issue of sustainability. I gained personal insights regarding sustainability from people of all ages from around the world; opening my mind up to different cultures and beliefs and how it affects sustainability.”

Links: Declaration ASP unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002305/230514e.pdf



Left to right: Libby Giles, Jolie Lam, Gabrielle Kerridge-Temm and Leorida Peters — The City of Okayama welcomes ESD Teachers and Students

YOUNG SCIENTISTS REALISE THEIR DREAMS



Rena Liu (left) and Amiee Zang, both 18 years old from Epsom Girls' Grammar School, receive the National Commission for UNESCO Award from Ian McKinnon, Chairman, New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO at the Award Ceremony for *Realise the Dream* held at Government House, for their study into tendon regeneration. The awards, which celebrate and recognise New Zealand's finest examples of science research, engineering or technological development undertaken by secondary school students, were organised by the Royal Society and main sponsor, Genesis Energy.

TŪHOE TUAWHENUA KNOWLEDGE ON WORLD STAGE

Biodiversity from terrestrial, marine, coastal, and inland water ecosystems is declining at an unprecedented rate around the world.



The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), based in Bonn, Germany, with membership from 124 states, was created to provide an independent mechanism, recognized by the international scientific and policy communities, to synthesize and critically evaluate information and knowledge generated worldwide by governments, academia, scientific organizations, non-governmental organizations and indigenous and local communities – on the state and drivers of change in the planet's biodiversity, its ecosystems and connected services.

As part of the IPBES global work programme, an Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK) Task Force was established with a goal of developing approaches, procedures and participatory mechanisms that could embed indigenous and local knowledge within IPBES functions and assessments. UNESCO has had responsibility within the UN system for ILK for over 35 years, and is therefore leading this component of the IPBES work programme.

New Zealand's Dr Phil Lyver (Ngāti Toarangatira ki Wairau, Landcare Research) was one of the first Co-Chairs of this Task Force and convened the *Global Dialogue Workshop on Indigenous Knowledge of Pollination and Pollinators associated with Food Production* at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama City, Panama, from 1 to 5 December 2014. Phil says that while there are many challenges relating to biodiversity, IPBES decided that addressing declines in the world's pollinators would be its first assessment topic.

"Pollination is one of the biggest biodiversity issues confronting global food security for many people at the moment."

The ILK workshop not only trialled the approaches and procedures for engaging indigenous and local knowledge within

the IPBES process for the first time, but used the IPBES theme of pollination to unearth new insights and knowledge that will be included in the formal IPBES assessment process.

Scientists and ILK experts from Brazil, Guatemala, France, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and the USA joined together in in-depth exchanges and discussions over the four days.

Phil said the dialogue was wide-ranging and incredibly valuable, including social, cultural, spiritual, biological and ecological change associated with pollinators and pollination as well as the identification of pollinator diversity and the cultural, social and economic value of pollination.

“When you think about something like biodiversity and ask yourself ‘how do we talk about it?’, ‘how do we understand it?’ For many of us, the answer is ‘through a scientific lens’. But like other indigenous populations, Māori measure, value and monitor biodiversity in a completely different way.”

Phil said it was important that the workshop moved away from conventional science-structured formats to reflect the participants’ indigenous approaches to sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas.

“While it would have been best to hold the workshop in an indigenous community, the participants worked hard to create a culturally responsive environment for the presentation of their knowledge.”

Speaking from their heads and their hearts, elders from the Tūhoe Tuawhenua Trust of Ruatahuna, Mr Tahae Doherty (Chair) and Ms Kirituia Tumarae-Teka (Advisor), attended the workshop and contributed their extensive knowledge and experiences relating to pollination and pollinators within the forests of Te Urewera. (Their participation was funded by the NZ National Commission under its contestable funding round.)

Phil said the elders made a significant impact on the global biodiversity stage.

“The scientists got insights into another world view immediately. The first thing the elders talked about was the significance of whakapapa to Māori and linkages to the land. In that environment, with space to listen and exchange — the scientists can see how humans are part of the system, not external to it. They were able to *feel* what was going on — something you couldn’t get any other way.”

Tahae and Kirituia talked about how the Tuawhenua people recognise the collectiveness in their world - everything is connected in their culture (e.g. bats, lizards,



Phil Lyver, Kirituia Tumarae-Teka and Tahae Doherty at the Smithsonian Tropical Resource Institute, Panama City, Panama: 1–5 December 2014

birds, insects, trees, plants, mountains, rivers and lakes). They explain that this connectedness (tātai whakapapa) of genealogy provides the strength to the ecosystem.

“As these elements are eroded, so is the resilience and integrity of the environment and the tribe. For the Tuawhenua people it is the whenua (land) that defines who you are and where you come from.”

As a result of their contributions, a Tūhoe Tuawhenua case study has been published in workshop proceedings for consideration by authors of the thematic assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production. In particular, authors were interested in Tuawhenua knowledge of changes in bird pollinators such as the korimako, tūi, and hihi as well as declines in feral honey bees and practice of harvesting honey over the last 50 years.

Reflecting upon co-organising and running the first indigenous and local knowledge IPBES global dialogue in Panama, Phil says that the workshop has been hugely beneficial in facilitating the engagement of ILK holders in IPBES’s first thematic assessment. While there is plenty of room for improving the process, such as conducting the dialogue with ILK holders in their own communities, Phil said the workshop provided a solid foundation for future IPBES thematic and regional assessments.

“The workshop represents a small step towards engaging ILK peoples in what is essentially a scientific process. The larger undertaking for the immediate future, however, is how do we influence this process so that it is culturally supportive and conducive for ILK holders and communities to impart their knowledge?”

Phil believes that indigenous and local communities need to feel that their knowledge is safe and valued, and that they are contributing to something that will benefit and not disadvantage their communities. He believes this is the challenge for the ILK Task Force, Multi-disciplinary Expert Panel and IPBES Plenary over the next 9-12 months.

Links: www.ipbes.net/

GLOBAL CHANGE = HUMAN CHANGE

New Zealand launch of global science report.

Representatives from the social and natural sciences sectors gathered together one evening in October at the Royal Society in Wellington, for the New Zealand launch of the World Social Science Report (WSSR), 'Changing Global Environments'.

The collaborative event which was co-hosted by the NZ National Commission, the Royal Society, Engaged Social Science (eSocSci) and Landcare Research, aimed to bring a New Zealand and Pacific focus to the global issues canvassed in the report.

Published by UNESCO, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the 600 page report features articles by more than 150 leading experts from over 41 countries across 24 social science disciplines such as: anthropology, economics, development studies, geography, political science, psychology, and sociology.

Underpinning the many topics runs the unifying message that people, human behaviour and societies need to be at the heart of all attempts to tackle the challenges of environmental change and phenomena studied by natural scientists.

The report presents a call to action to the international social science community for social scientists to collaborate more effectively with colleagues from the natural, human and engineering sciences to deliver relevant credible knowledge that helps to address the most pressing of today's environmental problems and sustainability challenges.

Since the report was launched at the UNESCO General Conference in 2013 the NZ National Commission has been working with eSocSci to promote the report in the New Zealand science community including presentations at conferences, discussions and workshops.

NZ National Commission Social Science specialist Diane Mara commented that, "While the WSSR is largely a Northern Hemisphere generated document, it's up to us to articulate our own priorities and cultural contexts consistent with the broad principles, connecting the importance of collaboration between the natural and social sciences to distinctive indigenous paradigms of knowledge as well as social and cultural priorities."

The report can be read online or downloaded from unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002246/224677e.pdf



from front cover

National Commission determined that there would be two contestable funding rounds a year. In the first two funding rounds of the 2014/2015 Financial Year, grants totalling \$225,000 were made to 22 different organisations, the projects subscribing to those strategic priorities, thus to the vision of UNESCO.

However, having concluded two funding rounds, the National Commission believes it must now review its strategy to ensure the appropriateness of its focus. It is important to know that it is operating effectively, making its decisions fairly, such decisions reflecting UNESCO's vision. It is conscious of UNESCO's mandate so must be prepared to contribute internationally as well, supporting NZ's attendance at conferences and here I acknowledge Trish Carter for her presence in Kazakhstan.

In support of its deliberations the National Commission has the benefit of a Youth Reference Group (YRG), with meetings now to be held at the same time so each can gain from the other.

I wish to record here thanks to Jason Pemberton, Chair of the YRG until early 2015, for his commitment to its work. I also extend my appreciation and those of the National Commission to the Secretariat – the Secretary General, Elizabeth Rose, and Vicki Soanes and Susan Isaacs, with Susan having now relinquished her role.

The contribution of members of the National Commission is greatly valued and I warmly thank them for their input. It is important there is advice from those experienced in the areas covered by UNESCO.

Finally, I would state again the commitment of National Commission members and Secretariat to the vision of UNESCO and the honour we all feel in being able to ensure that vision is well recognised.

Ian McKinnon CNZM QSO JP

HOLOCAUST NEVER FORGOTTEN



Photos: UNESCO

United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day

NZ National Commission Chair Ian McKinnon joined dignitaries and officials including Race Relations Commissioner Dame Susan Devoy, Mayor of Wellington Celia Wade-Brown and the Ambassadors of Israel, Germany and Poland who were accompanied by Holocaust survivors and survivors' descendants, to lead the solemn ceremony of Stonelaying at the Holocaust Memorial at Makara Cemetery, Wellington on 27 January 2014, International Holocaust Day.

www.holocaustcentre.org.nz

DUNEDIN A UNESCO CREATIVE CITY OF LITERATURE



The NZ National Commission is delighted to congratulate the city of Dunedin who have received the prestigious international designation of UNESCO Creative City of Literature.

Dunedin joins a network of 11 cities from around the world that have been granted this prestigious status; Melbourne, Iowa City, Dublin, Reykjavik, Norwich and Krakow, Granada, Heidelberg, Prague and significantly, Dunedin's sister-city, Edinburgh.

Speaking at a reception organised by the Dunedin City Council to celebrate Dunedin's new status, the Secretary General of the NZ National Commission, Elizabeth Rose, said, "For a New Zealand city at the bottom of the world to achieve this prestigious international status is no mean feat."

"I am aware it has taken persistence, imagination, and dedication on the part of a very talented team of people who are passionate about Dunedin, its rich literary heritage and the role that literature continues to play in the life of the city."

Literature is one of seven creative industry fields which UNESCO recognises through its Creative Cities network. Others are film, music, crafts and folk art, design, media arts and gastronomy.

UNESCO's Creative Cities network seeks to develop international co-operation among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable development. The network facilitates the sharing of

experience, knowledge and resources among the member cities as a means of promoting the development of local creative industries and fostering worldwide co-operation for sustainable urban development.

Dunedin aims to leverage off the status by building strong creative partnerships locally, nationally and internationally and plans to encourage exchanges between other Cities of Literature as well as fostering connections through creative writing, indigenous storytelling and translation works.

LINKS: CityofLiterature.co.nz
www.unesco.org/culture/creativecities/





L to R: Dianne Macaskill Memory of the World New Zealand Committee Chair, Jason Pemberton Youth Advisor, NZ National Commission, Sharon Dell Hocken Library, Sir Tipene O'Regan Ngāi Tahu and guest speaker at the function, Karen Neill, Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, Geraldine Warren, Auckland War Memorial Museum.

VOICES OF THE PAST SPEAK LOUD AND CLEAR

UNESCO honours early New Zealand oral and written heritage items.

Started in 1992, the Memory of the World Programme aims to promote and preserve documentary heritage.

Each year, new inscriptions are added to New Zealand's Memory of the World register and 2014 was no exception, seeing the addition of some extraordinary collections that spotlight fascinating and precious pieces of New Zealand's past. These included New Zealand's first book, oral history recordings that survived the Christchurch earthquakes and early 19th century missionary records.

Delivering the Certificates of Inscription to recipients at a ceremony held at the Air Force Museum, Wigram, Christchurch in December, the Memory of the World New Zealand Trust Committee Chair Dianne Macaskill said, "These three are valuable records of written and spoken English and Māori in New Zealand, with some pre-dating the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. Each of these collections greatly contributes to our nation's heritage and to the identity of New Zealanders. It is through the care of their holding institutions that these collections are accessible to us today."

A Korao no New Zealand, or, The New Zealander's first book, the New Zealand Oral History collection 1946-1948,

recorded by the New Zealand Broadcasting Service's Mobile Unit, and Dr Thomas Morland Hocken's Church Missionary Society Records (1808-c.1900) are valuable sources of research for historians, researchers, educators and many others in the wider community.

NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST BOOK

Auckland Museum Director Collections & Research, David Reeves, says his team are thrilled that *A Korao no New Zealand* has been added to the New Zealand Memory of the World Register.

"The conservation and preservation of this piece of documentary heritage has been in the collections of Auckland Museum since 1894."

The Auckland Museum's document — also known as *The New Zealander's first book: being an attempt to compose some lessons for the instruction of the natives* — is the first printed publication in Māori and the only known extant copy.

David said that its importance has grown with time and with better understanding of early Māori responses to European contact and is tangible evidence of Māori interacting with British missionaries and administration.

NEW ZEALAND'S ORAL HISTORY

The New Zealand Oral History collection 1946-1948 is a preeminent collection of broadcast oral histories recorded around regional New Zealand after the Second World War by the New Zealand Broadcasting Service's Mobile Unit. It is now cared for by Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision, New Zealand's national audiovisual archive.

Frank Stark, Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision Chief Executive, says that the recordings, in both English and Te Reo Māori, contain eye-witness accounts of New Zealand life reaching back as far as the 1850s.

"They are a crucial part of all New Zealanders' shared cultural inheritance and we are committed to preserving them for future generations."

Recollections of the Taranaki Wars, aspects of Māori culture, the origin of the frozen meat trade, the first thistle and first rabbits seen in Otago, the Chinese miners' use of opium, the first bicycle which frightened horses and the coming of electric power, are among the hundreds of interviews contained in the collection.

DR HOCKEN AND THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Charting the establishment of the Church Missionary Society mission in New Zealand along with the establishment of the first settlements and mission stations, the Church Missionary Society archives are one of the foundation collections of Dunedin's Hocken Library.

At its core are the letters and journals of Samuel Marsden — including his first sermon. They provide a rich and diverse first-hand account of the Māori world around the Bay of Islands, describing people, places and conversations, battles and gatherings, who was important and why, relationships between local iwi and hapu, Māori cultural practices, rituals, religion and arts as well as Māori horticulture, fishing and foods.

Hocken Librarian Sharon Dell says the inscription draws attention to the depth of the Hocken collections and their national significance.

"The documents were acquired by Dr Thomas Hocken himself and the archive is fundamental to understanding New Zealand history, as this was the first deliberate European settlement and the first sustained interaction between Māori and Pakeha."

Inscription onto the UNESCO Memory of the World register (which can cover documents, manuscripts, books, newspapers, posters, photographs, films, discs, drawings, prints, maps; online media items, social media databases, or mobile digital devices) draws attention to the significance of documentary heritage and the institutions and people that care for it. It also helps ensure the inscribed items are protected, preserved and accessible for future generations.

Read more at www.unescomow.org.nz

FROM INTOLERANCE TO FLOURISHING DIVERSITY



L-R: The Governor-General, Lt Gen The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae, NZ National Commission for UNESCO Natural Science Commissioner, Dr Bob Frame and Race Relations Commissioner, Dame Susan Devoy.

Each year a wide range of central and local government organisations, NGOs, the voluntary sector, business, civil society and young people gather at the annual Diversity Forum, organised by the Human Rights Commission to promote harmonious race relations, and take part in a wide number of workshops offered in areas such as migration and settlement, refugee issues, cultural diversity, religion, languages, human rights and discrimination.

The NZ National Commission was honoured to receive an award at this year's forum held in Christchurch. The awards recognise contributions made by key organisations working to promote and encourage harmonious race relations.

In presenting the award, Race Relations Commissioner, Dame Susan Devoy, said that the award recognised the NZ National Commission's "outstanding contribution to diversity in Aotearoa and ongoing commitment to making New Zealand a better place to live for all New Zealanders."

The award was accepted on behalf of the NZ National Commission by Natural Science Commissioner, Dr Bob Frame.

UNESCO HERITAGE AWARD TO RESTORED BOATSHED



“Save buildings you love”, is the heartfelt message from one of the delighted recipients of a UNESCO Cultural Heritage Award.

The restored Frankton Boatshed in Queenstown received an Award of Merit in the 2014 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Cultural Heritage Preservation, judged by an international panel of conservation experts in Bangkok.

Robin Miller, director of heritage architects Jackie Gillies + Associates, who advised on the heritage conservation aspects of the project, says the community of determined volunteers, historians, contractors, funders and fundraisers that made the restoration happen could not have asked for better recognition than the prestigious award.

“It is a testament to the focus of a few dedicated individuals and should encourage other local groups right across the country to persevere in their efforts to save the buildings they love and to find adaptive new uses for them.”

As well as acknowledging excellence in heritage protection, the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards aim to encourage other property owners to undertake conservation projects, either independently or by seeking public-private partnerships.

LINKS: www.unescobkk.org/culture/heritage/wh/heritageawards/

NATIONAL COMMISSIONS UNITE IN KAZAKHSTAN



NZ National Commissioner, Communications, Trish Carter, with two Kazakh men in traditional dress who were part of the first day's welcome ceremony, one component of an extensive cultural programme extended by the hosts to the visiting delegates.

NZ National Commissioner for Communication, Trish Carter, represented the NZ National Commission at the first Interregional Meeting of National Commissions for UNESCO in Astana, Kazakhstan in July.

Attended by over 200 delegates from 110 countries, the conference aimed to promote debate and knowledge sharing around capacity building, National Commission best practice, UNESCO International priority issues as well as formal and informal exchanges and networking.

Trish said the conference was extremely well organised and the issues discussed were wide ranging; from UNESCO's international fiscal constraints, to the way National Commissions proactively forge both public and private sector partnerships, to methods for raising UNESCO's visibility at country levels.

“The conference represented an immense body of knowledge and hands-on experience of promoting the UNESCO values in vastly differing political, economic and philosophical contexts. National Commissions around the world vary greatly — by size, their expertise, funding and stage of development. This meant that the ensuing discussions and knowledge-sharing exchanges were extremely valuable. Being able to make these rich connections with other participants face to face is invaluable for the NZ National Commission.”

Trish said that the conference's cultural programme was a highlight and put the day's conference talks into perspective with conference delegates travelling by bus each evening at dusk to review the layout of the beautifully illuminated Astana City and to visit every significant building and monument.



Jason Pemberton

YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

Made up of twelve New Zealanders aged between 18 and 25 years old from a wide range of backgrounds and led in 2014 by Jason Pemberton — the NZ National Commission’s Youth Reference Group (YRG), was created to ensure that young people are engaged in the decisions, priorities and discussions of the NZ National Commission.

The YRG members convene to discuss their views and thoughts on issues relating to the National Commission’s work.

“UNESCO’s presence and work in New Zealand and the world is incredibly important but it’s not that well known by most New Zealanders. By involving the right sort of young people, UNESCO can make a massive contribution to New Zealand and to our global system”, said Jason.

During 2014 the YRG focussed on discussing and debating the role, meaning and purpose of UNESCO to ensure that the group shared a common understanding and could articulate their role and aims to their peer groups and networks. They then turned their attention to creating systems and processes for future YRG groups that would foster continued momentum and knowledge sharing.

YRG member Mark Letham-Brake says that his involvement with the YRG enabled him to better understand how the New Zealand Government supports the functions of UNESCO in New Zealand.

Reflecting on Jason’s stepping down as leader in early 2015, Mark said Jason’s contribution will be longlasting. “Jason’s leadership and dedication to New Zealand youth will be sorely missed in the YRG.”

YRG member Sam Allen says that the group has progressed in leaps and bounds thanks to Jason’s leadership.

“Jason has been fantastic in moving the group forward strategically to a place where all the members are really excited to be.”

Another YRG member Lisa Tovey who works for DOC as a Partnerships Ranger in Fox Glacier, agrees, saying that Jason’s leadership enabled the relationship between the group and the NZ National Commission to ‘blossom’. “With his guidance and insight, he acted as our compass in the early days, providing a focus on structure.”

Wellington-based Sophie Goulter will take over the reins in early 2015, with other appointments made on a biennial basis.

After discussions with Jason and YRG members, the Chair, Ian McKinnon, proposed that from 2015 the YRG’s meetings occur immediately prior to the National Commission meetings. This is to enable the YRG not only to deliberate on the agenda items being considered by the National Commission but to allow the YRG to report back directly.

On behalf of the National Commission Ian McKinnon acknowledges the involvement of the young people serving on the YRG. He thanks them for their support of the aims of UNESCO, wishes the outgoing representatives well in the future and looks forward to engaging once more with those representatives staying on.

Ian also expressed his thanks to Vicki Soanes, Senior Advisor Education, Youth, Communications, for her commitment to the YRG and her willingness to assist and support them.

YRG 2014 members: Sam Allen, Ariana Andrews, Sophie Goulter, Mark Letham-Brake, Charlie Lin, Genevieve Ng, Jason Pemberton, Barbara Salazar, Nive Sharat, Anton Smith, Lisa Tovey, Kashka Tunstall.

INAUGURAL UNESCO CONTESTABLE GRANTS AWARDED

The NZ National Commission undertakes a work programme of activities which meet the objectives of UNESCO in the context of New Zealand and the Pacific.

In 2014, the new NZ National Commission decided to consolidate its funding approach into a contestable funding process. A call for applications for funding to support activities which demonstrably contribute to the Commission's strategic priorities was put out to national and community networks.

Of 28 individuals and organisations who applied, 10 were selected to receive funding under the UNESCO Contestable Activities Fund (UCAF):

1. **The Society for Māori Astronomy Research and Traditions (SMART)** received \$12,500 toward the publication of a book on Māori Calendrical systems.
2. Three experts were funded to attend the Intergovernmental **Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Indigenous and Local Knowledge** workshop in Panama and contribute New Zealand's indigenous knowledge on pollination assessment.
3. The **Massey University Pacific Research and Policy Centre** received \$12,500 toward the organisation of the first network meeting and the initiation of a pilot project under the newly formed UNITWIN Network for which it is the focal point: Sciences for Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS).
4. The organising committee of **the New Zealand Conference for Chemistry and Biology High School Teachers** to be held in Wellington in July 2015 received \$5,000 toward the costs of bringing four Pacific Island Teachers to New Zealand to attend the Conference and spend time in New Zealand classrooms.
5. **Science Alive** received a grant of \$12,000 toward an exhibit for the Celebration of Light Festival to be held in Christchurch in May 2015 to celebrate the UN International Year of Light.
6. The **Open Education Resource Foundation at Otago Polytechnic** who were recently appointed as a joint UNESCO/ Commonwealth of Learning Chair, received \$17,500 toward the development and delivery of two 'Massive Open Online Courses' (MOOCs); one on capability development for open education practices, and the other on digital skills for collaborative design and development.
7. The **New Zealand Book Council** received \$12,375 toward the extension of its Writers in Schools Programme to include Skype and video Virtual Visits.
8. The **Spirit of Rangatahi Charitable Trust** received \$12,000 toward the first local and regional 'Poetry Slam' competitions for Wellington youth.
9. **Multicultural NZ** (the NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils), received \$17,500 toward the development of a strategy document defining a 'successful multicultural New Zealand'. The resource will be used by other government agencies and community groups involved in multicultural policy and practice.
10. **Vagahau Niue Trust** received \$1,000 toward the organisation of the first PacificWin Youth Talanoa (workshop) for young Pacific women and girls. The workshop will focus on human rights.

The NZ National Commission congratulates all applicants whose broad range of activities and goals demonstrate an inspiring level of commitment to peace-building in innovative and often world-leading ways.

All future UCAF funding rounds will be advertised on the NZ National Commission's website and Facebook pages.

THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL COMMISSION

Chair: Mr Ian McKinnon

Communication: Ms Trish Carter

Culture: Professor Derek Lardelli
(until November 2014)

Education: Professor Arohia Durie

Natural Sciences: Dr Bob Frame

Social Sciences: Dr Diane Mara

Special Advisor Youth:

Mr Jason Pemberton

SECRETARIAT-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Secretary General, Senior Advisor
Natural and Social Sciences:
Elizabeth Rose

Senior Advisor Education, Youth,
Communications: Vicki Soanes

Senior Adviser Culture and
Communications: Susan Isaacs
(until August 2014)

UNESCO OFFICES AND LINKS

UNESCO Headquarters Paris -
www.unesco.org

UNESCO Apia -
www.unesco.org/new/en/apia

UNESCO Bangkok -
www.unescobkk.org

New Zealand Ministry of Education -
www.minedu.govt.nz

UNESCO Memory of the World,
New Zealand - www.unescomow.org.nz

UNESCO World Heritage, New Zealand -
www.doc.govt.nz

CONTACT US

PO Box 1666
Level 11,
Public Trust Building,
117-125 Lambton Quay,
Wellington 6011
Tel + 64 4 463 8600
Fax + 64 4 463 8828

WWW.UNESCO.ORG/NZ

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/UNESCONZ



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National
Commission for UNESCO
Te Komihiana Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO