



KUKI TIME– MY LANGUAGE & CULTURE

KukiTime 4 Kids owner Phoebe Happ created her own language resources to help local children in the Cook Islands improve their confidence in speaking their native language. Phoebe Happ is BTIB’s client and has been short listed to attend Path to Market, NZ.

Back in 2014, Ms Happ struggled to find suitable resources to help her in her role as a voluntary teacher. Children weren’t interested in learning the Cook Islands Maori language. Out of necessity having few Cook Island language resources, Ms Happ decided to create her own. She started translating nursery rhymes into Cook Islands Maori and made a collection of popular songs from the radio that children liked. Daughter Kura sang songs for the CD in English and Cook Island Maori to help children understand and enjoy them more.

Skip forward a little, Ms Happ, her daughter Kura and friend Lily Henry started fortnightly Kuki Time sessions at the local school Apii Nikao. The sessions included live performance aspects singing songs from the CD, dancing, and acting along with the cultural aspects of the Cook Islands Maori language.

The upbeat sessions of Zumba and dance to songs sung in Cook Islands Maori and other popular songs from the radio left children more energetic, moving and enjoying themselves, Ms Happ told the *Cook Islands News* in July. But watching children learning Cook Islands Maori over time was very rewarding Ms Happ said.

As a result of attending the KukiTime sessions children became less reserved and more confident.

Ms Happ also met with the Ministry of Education to try and get the Kuki Time educational resources included into the primary school curriculum. Each school is also gifted with CDs and resources as “a fantastic way for the kids to dedicate more learning towards it and continue to help their language skills,” Ms Happ told the *CINews*. She wanted to give the children many fun ways to learn their language.

“The kids are the guardians of the language,” she said.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

- April 8th, 2020
Keeping It Green Night Market

BTIB BOARD DATES

- March— 5th & 26th
- April—30th
- May—28th
- June— 25th

Ref: PTI NZ



TE KARERE ORA

Business Trade Investment Board - January

FOREIGN INVESTMENT:

The continuous selling of foods by foreigners at Retailers continued to be a public interest. The Foreign Investment Team step up its Monitoring & Compliance policies and responded immediately by issuing Alert Letters to all Food Retailers. These includes the CITC Super Market, Foodland and the Prime Foods.



The Team is continuing online monitoring for foreigners advertising on social media for their services and sale of their products. The selling of foods and charging for their services by foreigners are seen as carrying out a business activity which contravenes sections 17 & 18 of the Development Investment Act 1995 – 96.

Should you wish to carry out a business activity in the Cook Islands, you are required to submit an application for approval and registration to carry out that business activity.

For further inquiries please contact BTIB Office Ph 24 296.

TRADE EVENTS:

The Trade & Marketing team have been preparing and setting dates for the New Year, 2020 Calendar of Events. This year BTIB has new initiatives in place to assist with coordination of events focusing on our clients and clients in the Pa Enua. In saying that we are currently in the planning phase of our first BTIB event in collaboration with **CITC** which is the Keeping It Green Night Market. Please see poster below for more details. Expression of interest for vendors are currently open please feel free to contact our office on 24296 or stop by the office to uplift a registration form,



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2007 - Business Trade Investment Board (BTIB) established from the merger of the DIB and Small Business Enterprise Centre



New Year, New Team

CECILIA RERE

We are pleased to announce the arrival of our newest member to the **Foreign Investment & Trade team**, Cecilia Rere, who'll join us as the Senior Foreign Investment officer.

Cecilia is no stranger to the dynamics of a Government Department after previously being employed with MFEM's Treasury Management Division. Despite the career change, she believes that TMD equipped her with the tools to better interpret financial statements in order to make sound recommendations. These will be essential to her to new role when assessing potential foreign investor applications.

She is excited to utilize her qualifications at Business Trade and Investment Board and prosper professionally.

We look forward to seeing her contributions to our team.

PEACHES PAIA

Peaches Paia offers a history of a successful retail customer service and management in jewellery marketing, making and general retail store operations. With 5 years of retail experience Peaches has decided to transition her career path in the government sector, still implicating the customer service aspect in a role with BTIB. She is currently applying her skills as a **Client Representative** to a corporate side of customer service with BTIB.

Most recently she has also started her own health and wellness business under the umbrella of Arbonne International, which involves marketing and networking with clients around the world and also selling products, going to conferences and organising various presentations.

When she is not working she enjoys cultural dancing and most recently embarking on her fitness journey.

Peaches is passionate about helping people start up a business and as a business owner herself she understands the importance of assisting those who need professional and financial assistance and advise. Her aspiration with BTIB is to cultivate skills through doing academic courses, and physically serving customers in her current role to hopefully grow within the company and to ensure our vision at BTIB is incorporated in all that we do.

NOELLE TURIA

We the Staff and Management of BTIB would like to welcome No'elle Turia to the BTIB team. No'elle recently joined the BTIB as a student intern. She is currently completing a double major in law and criminology at Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. However, drawn to home while on holiday, she is planning on transferring her papers back home and completing her studies through USP. Although BTIB is different to the career path she is interested in, No'elle loves her role with the few weeks she's been with us and hopes to be considered as a permanent member of the team.



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