



TEKAREOREORA

Business Trade Investment Board—MAY

KEEPING IT GREEN NIGHT MARKET—CITC

This year marks the second year for the Keeping It Green Night Market Event. The Event is a collaboration between the Business Trade Investment Board (BTIB) and the Cook Islands Trading Corporation (CITC).



The theme Keeping It Green was initiated by CITC and Te Ipukarea Society (TIS) with the focus being on our Islands and Communities using biodegradable packaging, recycling and keeping the environment clean and green.



The Event took place on Friday 12th April 2019, from 5pm to 9pm at the Punanga Nui Market. The Event hosted a total of 14 registered vendors for the Event. All offering a variety of ready cooked hot meals, sweet treats, value added and processed products, crafts and biodegradable and environmentally friendly products were available to the public.



CITC had set up an information and learning tent for kids. They had a number of their products from 3 different divisions. The aim for this was to promote and educate the young generation on power saving appliances, eco-friendly products and environmentally sustainable practices.

The colouring competition was a positive aspect for the night market and one of the main highlights. This was organised and managed by CITC who distributed the colour in sheets to the schools around Rarotonga. The judging was done beforehand by CITC with the winners of the competition being announced on the night and able to collect their prizes.



The Entertainment on the night was done by Apii Arorangi. The entertainment was another highlight for the night.

We would like to thank everyone who registered with us and those who supported the event. This will be an ongoing partnership with CITC which we are hoping would bring more awareness to keeping our environment clean and green.



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1991 - Monetary Board established | 1997 - Development Investment Board (DIB) established |

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WHO ARE THE PARTICIPANTS?

- Traders
- Exporters
- Importers
- Distributors
- Travel Wholesalers
- Investors
- Government
- Creative industry
- Chambers of Commerce
- Business associations
- Cooperatives
- SMEs
- Manufacturers
- MNCs
- Broadcasters



INVITED COUNTRIES

CREATING PACIFIC MOMENTUM

- ❖ Australia
- ❖ Cook Islands
- ❖ Fiji
- ❖ Federated States of Micronesia
- ❖ Kiribati
- ❖ Marshall Island
- ❖ Nauru
- ❖ Niue
- ❖ New Caledonia
- ❖ New Zealand
- ❖ Palau
- ❖ Papua New Guinea
- ❖ Samoa
- ❖ Solomon Islands
- ❖ Timor Leste
- ❖ Tonga
- ❖ Tuvalu
- ❖ Vanuatu

Pacific Exposition

The Investment & Trade team are preparing for the Pacific Exposition in Auckland New Zealand, in July 2019. This event is sponsored by the Indonesia Government, it's a trade, investment and tourism event. It is designed to facilitate Pacific Island countries to promote their economic opportunities. This is the first event of its kind and will include traders, exporters, importers, distributors, investors, travel wholesalers, government etc.

The team are updating the export ready catalogue that features Cook Islands export ready products. BTIB is also working alongside an experienced local photographer to capture some new images to make the catalogue pop! The team is looking forward to this event and to promote our country as a destination and the business export opportunities.

New Staff—Business Enterprise Advisor

Maria was previously employed by the Cook Islands Red Cross Society as a finance officer, and she is grateful for the experience and knowledge gained there. She believes Business Trade and Investment Board will contribute positively to her professional and personal development through new challenges and opportunities which she is very excited for. Maria will strive to do her best to support the success of the Organisation. She would like to say Meitaki maata to the team at BTIB for welcoming her this week with open arms, and she is looking forward to working alongside all the staff to achieve the goals of the Organisation.



National Food Safety Indicators Workshop

A technical working group has been created to help develop food safety indicators for the Cook Islands. This group consists of a variety of employees from government agencies who are either directly or indirectly involved in food safety for our country, including Ministry of Marine Resources, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Public Health etc.

The Business Trade & Investment Board is fortunate to also be a part of this technical working group, where we can understand and learn about food safety standards and rules, which our clients in the food and beverage industry must abide by in order to carry out business.

A three day workshop was held from 14th – 16th May at the Crown Beach Resort, hosted by the Ministry of Health. Facilitators for the day included Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Food Safety Officers, Mrs Masami Takeuchi and Mr Joseph Nyemah. The goal of this workshop was to identify food safety indicators for our country. This goal was achieved throughout the workshop thanks to the insights and contributions from private sector and our Pa Enea Participants who included their own personal experiences and knowledge. MOH will then test that the indicators are measurable and achievable for our country.

The technical working group will continue to meet with MOH until we can confirm the national food safety indicators to be set for country and determine priorities for strategic and collaborative action planning for the Cook Islands. From here we will then be able to allocate the appropriate funding and formulate effective awareness-raising tools for our community.



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My Vaka, My Workplace Training

Over the last two weeks, the BTIB was able to participate in the My Vaka, My workplace training held by Mereani Talbot.

We split our office in half and each half had a two day session that was held over the course of two weeks.

Our employees were able to share views about office dynamics, teamwork and communication styles to encourage team work and productivity. Lots of discussions were held and there were also good activities and video presentations shared to help staff have a better understanding about the workplace and the people they work with.



A visit on the 28th and 29th March to Aitutaki incorporated with INTAFF

Cecil Campbell from Amuri, has his own little business in making coconut oil that is called Tai Inu. The new grater/grinder (kana), the grated coconut and the tai inu leaves are also shown in this photo. This is Cecil's full time job apart from selling nu and looking after his children after school. If anyone wants to order this oil which can be used for new born babies right to the elderly people, Cecil can be contacted on: Home: 31439 or Mob: 80631.



The Aitutaki Vainetini which a workshop was held by INTAFF for the Disability, Vulnerable and Elderly. BTIB was given the opportunity to speak on the service it offers where 15 to 20 vainetini attended.



BTIB client John Winchester of Aluminium Windows based in Tautu was visited and business is doing well. Aluminium Windows roller equipment in the new building.



BTIB Clients Papa and Mama Upu

Other clients were visited to update on their soft loans with BTIB.

Lastly – Thank you to:

Ann Herman Secretary of INTAFF for working alongside with BTIB and the use of the INTAFF office in Aitutaki for the 2 days visit.

Bank of the Cook Islands in Aitutaki for the display of the BTIB brochures where people can freely pick up and to know more about BTIB and the service it can offer.

Celebrating Mothers Day with BTIB

BTIB staff were able to get together sometime last week to recognize the hard working Mothers who work within the organization, one of our favourite cafes Lazy Trout central Avarua. The schedule for the morning included a one minute speech from each of the staff to discuss how the past year or past 6 months have been for them, in terms of work, challenges faced and opportunities that arise. This is part of team bonding here at BTIB and just reconnecting with staff outside of the office. It was a lovely morning spent with staff, mothers and partners.



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