

2000 ANNUAL REPORT

Seattle Christchurch Sister City Association (SCSCA)

Below is a list of the Association's activities and projects for 2000. At the beginning of the list that is generally in chronological order are the three projects that are ongoing year to year.

Arboretum

As reported last year, a committee was formed to assist the Director and his staff in the implementation of the new plan for the Arboretum. The Arboretum currently has a New Zealand High Country exhibit sponsored by the SCSCA. Now that the plan has been approved, the Association expects to be taking on a more active role as we assist in the sourcing of plants for the expanded New Zealand High Country plantation.

The Burke Museum

The Pacific Voices Exhibit at the Burke Museum includes a prominent display of native New Zealander Maori art and artifacts. This exhibit continues to be an enormous success.

Woodland Park Zoo

SCSCA was instrumental in introducing two Keas to the Woodland Park Zoo some time ago. The Kea is a parrot native to New Zealand introduced to Seattle a few years ago due to the efforts of the Association. As a result of their success, many other zoos in the USA are exploring the possibility of displaying the Kea, sourcing them from either New Zealand or taking the Seattle offspring.

America's Cup Celebration

In early 2000 New Zealand hosted the America's Cup yachting challenge. The SCSCA Board hosted a function at the Elliot Bay Marina Club to coincide with one of the races. We partnered with local companies and the Australia New Zealand America Society, with which we have a close association. This event was a huge success and we look forward to holding a similar event the next time the challenge occurs, in 2003.

Children's Art Exhibit

In April 2000, the City of Christchurch sponsored a Children's Art Exhibit which featured artwork from Seattle and Christchurch students, aged 6-13, on the subject of "what will your city look like in 100 years?." The SCSCA coordinated the artwork of 100 students from 3 Seattle schools, and hand delivered them to our sister city of Christchurch for display.

Seattle International Film Festival in May 2000

In May 2000 the Seattle International Film Festival included a special spotlight for movies from the cities that are sisters with Seattle. We took the opportunity to invite our membership and hold an informal function before one of our films. We coordinated New Zealand hors d'oeuvres for the Sister City Gala, and provided volunteers for the film showings. We also provided an informative display about Christchurch, New Zealand and our organization at each of the film showings.

SCSCA Hosts Farewell to Karl Hutterer in August 2000

The SCSCA board hosted a farewell to Karl Hutterer as he left his position as Director of the Burke Museum. The relationship between SCSCA and the Burke museum has been a long and strong one,

much in part due to the work of Karl. Several of the board attended, and traditional New Zealand food was served.

Board Retreat in August 2000

In August of 2000 the SCSCA Board met for a one day retreat to review the previous year's work, and strategize for next few years.

Seattle-Christchurch Scholars Program

In August 2000, two Seattle high school students, Ingrid Soderland and Mladjan Jurkovic, traveled to Christchurch for three weeks of official city visits, school visits, home stays, and touring. They shared much about Seattle with their New Zealand hosts. In October, their families in Seattle hosted two Christchurch students, Jay Pascoe and Nicky Clark. While in Seattle, Jay and Nicky met with city officials along with the Christchurch Mayoral delegation that visited in October. They attended classes at the University Prep, volunteered at the Woodland Park Zoo and at a Seattle elementary school.

Change in New Zealand's Honorary Consul in Seattle

This summer John Bollard was honored in a celebration at the Seattle Yacht Club for his 10 years of service as the New Zealand Honorary Consul in Seattle. New Zealand's Consul General in Los Angeles, Daryll Dunn, and numerous local officials attended to bid farewell, and welcome the new Honorary Consul in Seattle, Della Newman.

Mayoral delegation from Christchurch visits Seattle

In October 2000 SCSCA received a Mayoral visit of 30 delegates from our sister city. The delegation included Christchurch Mayor Gary Moore, and sectors represented included economic development, trade, biotechnology/environmental, information technology, and education. Organizations represented included the Canterbury Development Corporation, the Canterbury Employer's Chamber of Commerce and New Zealand Intellectual Capital Foundation. The delegation visited local sites, officials from the University of Washington and the City of Seattle, and local business representatives. SCSCA hosted a tour of the Arboretum and Burke Museum, including the SCSCA projects mentioned above. New Zealand Consul-General in Los Angeles joined the delegation and spoke at selected social and business functions. SCSCA's representative on the Seattle City Council, Richard Conlin, joined many of the activities and established links with those from Christchurch, especially those connected with the issue of sustainable cities. Many of the very productive business connections in Seattle were made possible by the excellent work of the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle.

Christchurch Garden Park

Throughout the 2000 year Christchurch has been putting together a park that features vegetation and other items from several of Christchurch's sister cities around the world. Our Board was active in putting the coordinators in touch with specialists at the Arboretum for plant suggestions, and local artists for the feature sculpture that will represent Seattle. In our search we established some contacts with some talented Lummi carvers in the local area. The final artist that was selected was Doug Neil, a Seattle artist that now lives in Christchurch. Doug Neil was recommended to the Christchurch Committee at the beginning of the selection process.

Newsletters

In combination with the New Zealanders of Seattle SCSCA published a multi-page newsletter to our membership including news, and pertinent facts about New Zealand and Christchurch. We have received positive feedback from our membership regarding the newsletters.

Association Board Meetings

In addition to the listed events the Board convened to meet January, February, March, April, May, June, July, September and November of 2000. The Annual General Meeting was held in October.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Moore

President, Seattle Christchurch Sister City Association