

August 24, 2015

Yantai delegation visit strengthens partnerships

A CHINESE delegation from Yantai is in Mackay strengthening ties and discussing business and investment opportunities between our regions.

Mayor Deirdre Comerford will welcome them at a dinner tonight (**Monday, August 24**), also being attended by Acting Premier Jackie Trad and Member for Mackay Julieanne Gilbert.

She said the Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday region and Yantai had a Sister Region relationship.

“This visit by the Yantai delegation will strengthen that bond,” Cr Comerford said.

“It is about discussing business, investment and trade opportunities between Yantai and our region, as well as in other sectors, such as education,” she said.

The Yantai delegation is led by Wang Jianguo, Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of Yantai’s People’s Congress.

The delegation had a roundtable meeting with council senior officers this afternoon and will this evening attend a meeting of the Diversify Mackay Leadership Alliance (DMLA).

The DLMA is a collaboration of business, industry, community organisations and government working together to create a sustainable future for Mackay.

Yantai delegates will present on the Chinese investment environment, including key projects like Yantai’s Hi-Tech Industrial Development Zone and Luye Hi-Tech Industrial Park.

“There are good synergies between our region and Yantai, hence the Sister Region relationship that has been formed,” Cr Comerford said.

“Those links will be strengthened during this visit and we’ll also hopefully open up new opportunities,” she said.

-2-

Tomorrow morning the delegation will have breakfast in the City Centre and inspect the revitalisation project before touring CQUniversity at Ooralea.

“The possibility of future student exchange program opportunities will be on the agenda during that visit to the university,” said Cr Comerford.

Photo caption: [Mayor Deirdre Comerford welcomes leader of a Yantai delegation, Wang Jianguo, Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of Yantai People's Congress.](#)

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: Yantai delegation touring CQUniversity Mackay

When: Tomorrow, Tuesday, August 25

Time: 9am

Where: Building A at the Trade Training Centre at CQUniversity Ooralea campus

Contact: Debra Howe, council's Economic Development Manager, 0447 739 753

For further information please contact:

Cr Deirdre Comerford, Mackay Mayor

Debra Howe, Manager Economic Development

4961 9455

0447 739 753

235