



Media Release

Visit by Mayoral Delegation from China

Wednesday, 2 September 2009

An eight person delegation from Changyuan County, our sister local authority in China, will visit Central Otago next week.

Led by Mayor Liu Sen, the delegation will be welcomed at Central Stories in Alexandra on Monday afternoon, and will tour the museum, focussing on the Chinese gold mining collection and hearing about the lives and times of the Chinese miners. Central Stories director Brian Patrick will present a cultural exchange proposal to the delegation.

On Tuesday the delegation will visit the Otago Polytechnic in Cromwell, for discussions about a proposed student and lecturer exchange programme. Changyuan styles itself 'the home of Chinese cooking', and has a very large chef training school – the Henan Boda School – under development. There are a number of opportunities for the polytechnic and Henan Boda to work together, both in Cromwell and in Changyuan.

Polytechnic chef/lecturer Chris Smith visited the Henan Boda cooking school in China last year, and will help welcome this delegation to Cromwell.

During the short visit the delegation will be briefed on the economy of Central Otago, and the potential for tourism into and out of Central China, as well as import/export opportunities for fruit, wool and wine. Anyone interested in meeting the delegation should contact me this week.

This is the second group to visit from Changyuan. The relationship is growing, and has great potential.

For more information please contact:

Malcolm Macpherson PhD JP
Mayor, Central Otago District
DD 03 440 0638,
Mobile 0275 899 039