

16th April 2010

Chinese delegation visit to sign friendship agreement with council

On Monday the 19th of April, Shoalhaven City Council will be visited by a delegation from the Xuan Wu District, Beijing Municipality to sign a friendship agreement between the two cities.

In 2008, council was requested to consider the establishment of a friendship agreement through the Beijing Foreign Affairs office.

This followed a meeting from a Shoalhaven delegation in the district in May 2007. Shoalhaven Council were thrilled by this invitation to form an agreement that would assist in building strong cultural, economic and educational ties between the cities.

The agreement makes the following statement. "The two sides agree to make concerted effort on the basis of equality and mutual benefit to promote people-to-people friendly contacts and economic and trade interflow between the two cities and actively carry out exchanges and cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology, culture, sports, health, education, and personnel etc."

Shoalhaven City Mayor, Cllr. Paul Green says about the agreement, "it's a great honour to be invited to sign this agreement with Xuan Wu District. We see it as a strengthening of bonds that will enhance business, cultural and educational opportunities"

The Xuan Wu district is located at the centre of Beijing, to the southwest of Tiananmen Square and is one of four central urban districts within the city. The district enjoys a rich history with relic sites including Tianning Temple Tower, Fayuan Buddhist Temple, and Xianningtan of Ming Dynasty and has long been a prosperous business and cultural hub.

A delegation of six will arrive in the Shoalhaven on the 19th of this month and will be welcomed by Cllr Green and other council staff before the official signing of the agreement takes place in the Council Chamber at 12 noon. Afterwards the delegates that include the Mayor of the district Du Lingxin, will visit Nowra Wildlife Park to enjoy the wonderful flora and fauna of Australia.

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