

4. **8<sup>TH</sup> WORLD LEISURE CONGRESS 2004 “LEISURE MATTERS”  
– BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA - 12-17 SEPTEMBER, 2004**

**Officer responsible**  
Community and Recreation Manager

**Author**  
Lesley Symington, DDI 941-8879

The purpose of this report is to recommend that one member of the Community and Leisure Committee attend this international conference - 8<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress 2004 'Leisure Matters'.

This conference will bring together delegates from diverse cultural backgrounds – including researchers, policy makers, social planners and managers of leisure services.

Key focuses of the conference will be:

- How is leisure understood and experienced by people from diverse socio-cultural contexts?
- How do patterns of leisure vary across different social groups?
- What evidence exists to support claims about the benefits of leisure in economic, social, environmental and health terms?
- How is evidence used in the development of social policies and leisure services and to what effect?
- The future role of leisure services

Keynote speakers include Professor John Crompton, Distinguished Professor of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences at Texas A and M University, who is one of the foremost international leisure commentators; and Richard Neville, author, social commentator and 'futurist' who recently founded the Australian Futures Foundation to update business on the new tools and techniques for shaping the future.

The conference programme has been circulated separately.

Costs for attendance at the conference for one Councillor is approximately:

- Registration \$1,935
- Accommodation \$975
- Airfares (Approximately) \$800
- Daily meeting allowance would also be payable.

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Community and Leisure Committee send one representative to the 8<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress, Brisbane, Australia from 12-17 September 2004.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion.