

7. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR THE MAYORESS TO ACCOMPANY THE MAYOR TO THE USA
IN APRIL/MAY 2005**

General Manager responsible:	Stephen Hill, General Manager Public Affairs
Officer responsible:	Richard Stokes, Marketing Manager
Author:	Julie Battersby, City Promotions Coordinator, DDI 941-8780

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek funding for the Mayoress, Pam Sharpe, to accompany Mayor Garry Moore to the United States of America from 27 April to 8 May 2005.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. For four weeks in May 2005 the nations of the world will meet at United Nations headquarters to address the challenges of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. The Mayors for Peace Network intend to assemble a delegation of one hundred Mayors and a comparable number of city officials to present a united voice in seeking non-proliferation and disarmament.
3. The Mayor, as a member of the Mayors for Peace Network, will join other Mayors for three days in New York during which time the collective will make representation at the 7th Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty being held at the United Nations Headquarters. The delegation of mayors will speak on behalf of thousands of cities around the world that have signed the Mayoral Statement based on the United States Conference of Mayor's resolution for the commencement of negotiations on the elimination of nuclear weapons.
4. Prior to travelling to New York, the Mayor will also make a two day visit to Seattle to meet with officials of the University of Washington, and also meet Mayor Greg Nickels for discussions prior to the Asia Pacific Summit in China later in the year.
5. Following the Mayors for Peace business in New York, the Mayor will travel to Washington DC to visit the National Science Foundation to discuss the Antarctic Gateway relationship and also hold discussions around opportunities for corporate development in Canterbury.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. It is appropriate for the Mayoress to accompany the Mayor to represent Christchurch at these occasions. The Mayoress' travel costs can be accommodated within the Mayor's 2004/05 travel budget. The cost of the travel for the Mayoress would be approximately \$2,200. Her accommodation will be included with the Mayor's accommodation costs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council give approval for Mayoress Pam Sharpe to accompany Mayor Garry Moore during his visit to Seattle, New York and Washington DC in April/May 2005 for a total of 10 days.

BACKGROUND

What is the Mayors for Peace?

7. In August 1945, atomic bombs instantaneously reduced the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to rubble, taking hundreds of thousands of precious lives. Today, more than fifty years after the war, thousands of citizens still suffer the devastating after effects of radiation and unfathomable emotional pain. To prevent any repetition of the A-bomb tragedy, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have continually sought to tell the world about the inhumane cruelty of nuclear weapons and have consistently urged that nuclear weapons be abolished.
8. On 24 June 1982, at the second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, then Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima proposed a new programme to promote the solidarity of cities toward the total abolition of nuclear weapons. This proposal offered cities a way to transcend national borders and work together to press for nuclear abolition. Subsequently, the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki called on mayors around the world to support this programme.
9. The Mayors for Peace comprises cities around the world that have formally expressed support for the programme Mayor Araki announced in 1982. As of 7 February 2005, membership stood at 714 cities in 110 countries and regions. In March 1990, the Mayors' Conference was officially registered as a UN NGO related to the Department of Public Information. In May 1991, it became a Category II NGO (currently called a NGO in "Special Consultative Status") registered with the Economic and Social Council.
10. Mayor Garry Moore is a member of the Mayors for Peace Network.
11. The following activities will also be undertaken by the Mayor during his visit to the USA:
 - The Mayor will visit Seattle City to meet with the Mayor of Seattle for discussions around the Asia-Pacific Cities Summit, which will take place in China in October 2005. He will also meet with HitLab staff at the Washington State University.
 - In Washington DC meetings will be held with key American agencies and logistics companies focussed around Antarctic business; the National Science Foundation, and several international and multi-national companies where he will discuss opportunities for corporate development in Canterbury. A staff member from the Canterbury Development Corporation will also accompany the Mayor during his business meetings.