



**High Commission of
Malaysia in Wellington**

**Newsletter 1/2016
January – June 2016**

FOREWORD

Selamat Datang/Kia Ora!

Greetings from Wellington, Middle of the Middle Earth, located at the southern tip of the North Island of New Zealand. It is the coolest little capital and cruise capital in the world, so says the Wellington City Council.

Through the Newsletter, the Malaysian High Commission in Wellington hopes to share a glimpse of Malaysia's diplomatic presence in New Zealand through some of its official and social activities in the country.

VISITS

I. Visit of Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia to Auckland on 3-5 February 2016

The High Commission welcomed the visit of YB Dato' Sri Mustapa bin Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia to Auckland for the signing of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) on 4 February 2016. YB Minister's delegation included YB Senator Tan Sri Abu Zahar Ujang, Speaker of the Senate, Malaysian Parliament, YB Dato' Wira Ahmad Hamzah, MP Jasin, YB Dato' Irmohizam Ibrahim, MP Kuala Selangor, Dato' J. Jayasiri, TPPA Chief Negotiator, H.E. Dato' Lim Kim Eng, High Commissioner of Malaysia to New Zealand, Director General of MIDA and other officials from MITI, MATRADE & MIDA.



TPPA Signatories with NZ Prime Minister John Key at the Signing Ceremony at SkyCity Convention Centre.



The Malaysian Delegation after the TPPA Signing Ceremony

II. Visit of Deputy Foreign Minister to New Zealand

YB Dato' Sri Reezal Merican Naina Merican and his wife, Datin Sri Ismalina Ismail visited New Zealand on 21 - 26 February 2016. They were accompanied by Encik Tun Faisal Ismail Aziz, Fellow and Advisory Panel Member, Department of Special Affairs (JASA), Ministry of Communications and Multimedia and Mr. James Koh, Special Officer to YB DFM.

While in New Zealand, YB DFM who is also the Chairperson of the UMNO Bureau of Malaysian Overseas Students, met with Malaysian students in Auckland (21 February), Queenstown (23 February) and Wellington (24 February), before departing Auckland in the early hours of 26 February 2016.



Arrival at Wellington Airport



Meeting with Malaysian students in Auckland



At Rumah Malaysia, Official Residence of the High Commissioner



Dinner with Malaysian students at the High Commission of Malaysia IN Wellington

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

I. Chinese New Year Celebration at Rumah Malaysia

To welcome the Year of the Monkey, High Commissioner Dato' Lim Kim Eng hosted a Chinese New Year reception for Heads of Missions and spouses of ASEAN, OIC and Pacific Island States in Wellington at Rumah Malaysia on 17 February 2016. All HBS and LRS as well as some members of the Malaysian community, were also invited.



Diplomats and Guests enjoying the spread of Malaysian food at Rumah Malaysia, Wellington



With the LRS and fellow Malaysians at Rumah Malaysia

II. Inaugural AirAsia X (AAX) flight from Kuala Lumpur to Auckland (via Gold Coast)

The arrival of the inaugural Air Asia X flight from Kuala Lumpur to Auckland on 23 March 2016 was warmly welcomed by a Maori powhiri ceremony and haka performance at Auckland International Airport. While it was another milestone for Air Asia X, the High Commission and TM Auckland welcomed its contribution to increasing connectivity between New Zealand and Malaysia, more people-to-people links and tourism flows. On hand to welcome the Air Asia X delegation led by Y.Bhg. Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, AAX Chairman, Mr. Benyamin Ismail, AAX CEO were Honourable Amy Adams, Minister of Justice, Minister of Broadcasting and Minister of Communications of New Zealand, High Commissioner Dato' Lim Kim Eng, Mr. Adrian Littlewood, Chief Executive of Auckland Airport, and Ms. Zalina Ahmad, Director of TM Auckland.

In conjunction with the inaugural flight, AirAsia X and TM Auckland also arranged for a familiarisation trip for eight Kiwi travel agents and media to Kota Kinabalu and Kuala Lumpur from 1- 6 April 2016. High Commissioner Dato' Lim and TM Auckland Director, Puan Zalina also accompanied the group.



Powhiri Welcome



Arrival at Auckland International Airport, 23 April 2016



Media Launch of Air Asia X Inaugural flight from Kuala Lumpur to Auckland.



With Kiwi media and Travel agents



At Kota Kinabalu, part of the AirAsia familiarization trip

III. High Commissioner's Visit to Dunedin

High Commissioner Dato' Lim and Puan Suraya Sari Abd. Aziz, EMNZ Education Attaché, attended the Otago Malaysian Students' Association (OMSA) Welcoming Reception for new Malaysian students at Otago University on 4 March 2016. More than a hundred Malaysian students turned up and enjoyed the Malaysian food prepared by OMSA. Dato' Lim also hosted a dinner for the OMSA Committee members and the members of Bersatu Games 2016 Organising Committee of OMSA.



High Commissioner Dato' Lim with Malaysian students during the OMSA Welcoming Reception

IV. Birthday Reception to celebrate the Hari Keputeraan SPB Yang di-Pertuan Agong on 3 June 2016 at the High Commission.

The auspicious event was welcomed by all the Malaysian staff at the High Commission. Some twenty Malaysian university students in Wellington were invited to share the significance in celebrating the occasion.



Birthday Cake to mark the auspicious Hari Keputeraan of Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong



Malaysian students from Victoria University in Wellington at the event.

V. ASEAN Young Business Leaders' Initiative under the Plan of Action to implement ASEAN-New Zealand Dialogue Strategic Partnership, organised by Asia-New Zealand Foundation, 15 June 2016.

High Commissioner Dato' Lim attended the Reception to welcome the Young Business Leaders delegation from ASEAN countries to New Zealand. Asia New Zealand Foundation is tasked to promote relations with Asia through greater connectivity and increasing New Zealanders' knowledge of ASEAN/Asia. Hon. Stephen Joyce, Minister of Commerce of New Zealand, gave a short address to welcome them.

Malaysia was represented by Mr. Wei Sheng Pee of Sweet Potatoes Sdn Bhd. in Penang, which produces pesticide-free sweet potatoes under the *Ubiss* brand in Malaysia. He delivered a speech on behalf of the delegation.



High Commissioner Dato' Lim with Mr. Wei.

VI. Pan Pacific South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA)'s Fundraising Dinner in support of community projects:

*** Sharing Extraordinary Transformations with New Generations**

*** PPSEAWA Empowering Women Scholarship**

PPSEAWA is the only international women's organization devoted to families, peace and understanding in the Pacific and Southeast Asia. With a chapter in Malaysia, PPSEAWA members will visit Malaysia to attend its Conference in August 2016.

The Guest Speaker was Prof. Dr. Swee Tan ONZM MBBS Ph.D FRACS who is the Executive Director of Gillies McIndoe Research Institute in Wellington, was awarded Wellingtonian of the Year for Science & Technology (2014) and a Recipient of the KEA World Class New Zealand Award 2015.

Prof. Dr. Swee Tan is a renowned facial reconstructive surgeon who leads a research team on cancer treatments for the past 15 years. Prof. Swee Tan who came from Senggarang, Johor, won a scholarship to complete his medical degree in Australia.



High Commissioner Dato' Lim with President of PPSEAWA in Wellington, Dr. Gloria Hettige and Prof. Dr. Swee Tan



Token gift presentation by High Commissioner Dato' Lim to Prof. Dr. Swee Tan

ASEAN COMMITTEE IN WELLINGTON (ACW) ACTIVITIES

High Commissioner Dato' Lim, as the ACW Chair from January – June 2016, hosted amongst others, three ACW meetings held at the Malaysian High Commission.

High Commissioner Dato' Lim also hosted a closing dinner on 16 June 2016 for the ASEAN Heads of Missions and their spouses at Istana Malaysia restaurant in Wellington. The dinner also served as an ACW Farewell Dinner for H.E. Jose Morato Tavares, Ambassador of Indonesia to New Zealand and his wife, upon completion of his term of duty in New Zealand.

In addition, the ACW also organized an Evening Get-together on 30 March 2016 for ten ASEAN diplomats. Young ASEAN Diplomats Study Tour (YADST) to New Zealand was organized by New Zealand Foreign Ministry from 30 March - 8 April 2016. YADST fits within the new "People Strategy" outlined in the Joint Statement of the 40th ASEAN-NZ Commemorative Summit. YADST will be carried out for next 5 years. Malaysia was represented by Ms. Nur Dayana Mohamed Sahar, an officer from the ASEAN Department, Wisma Putra.

I. ACW 1/2016 Meeting on 26 January 2016



II. ACW 2/2016 Meeting on 22 April 2016



III. ACW 3/2016 Meeting on 16 June 2016



Handing over ceremony of ACW Chairmanship from High Commissioner Dato' Lim of Malaysia to Ambassador Jesus Domingo of The Philippines.



Farewell dinner hosted by High Commissioner Dato' Lim for Ambassador of Indonesia to New Zealand and his wife, upon completion of his term of duty.

IV. ACW Evening Get-Together with YADST on 30 March 2016



V. Malaysian High Commissioner Dato' Lim as the ACW Chair, together with ASEAN Heads of Missions of Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam hosted a lunch in honour of Hon. Todd McClay, Minister of Trade, New Zealand at the Wellington Club on 12 May 2016.



ASEAN LADIES CIRCLE (ALC)

High Commissioner Dato' Lim, as the ACW Chair, was also the ALC Chair from January – June 2016. Under Malaysia's Chair, two ALC lunch events were hosted at the Malaysian High Commission. Each ASEAN mission in Wellington contributed their national dishes for the lunch events.

In addition, on Monday, 29th March 2016, the ALC undertook a Meal contribution project i.e. provided a dinner to Suzanne Aubert Compassion Centre – Soup Kitchen, for 80 persons. ALC members also assisted the staff of Soup Kitchen and volunteers in serving the dinner and cleaning up. The dinner which comprised Fried Rice, Malaysian Chicken Curry, Stir Fried Vegetables, Fresh Cut Fruits and Dessert, was well-received by Soup Kitchen and its patrons. The project was intended to raise ASEAN awareness in Wellington.

I. First ALC Meeting & Luncheon on 14 March 2016



At ALC Lunch event on 14 March 2016



ALC members paying attention to the "Kariapap Pusing" demonstration

II. Second ALC Meeting & Luncheon of 30 May 2016



Various national dishes from the 6 ASEAN Missions in Wellington



ALC members posing for a group photo

III. ALC Meal contribution Project in Wellington



High Commissioner Dato' Lim and ALC members at the Soup Kitchen.

PERWAKILAN WELLINGTON

I. PERWAKILAN Wellington promotes Malaysian cuisine

On 14 February 2016, PERWAKILAN Wellington participated in the Annual Chinese New Year Asian Bazaar which was officiated by Her Worship Celia Wade-Brown, the Mayor of Wellington City. It was an opportunity for PERWAKILAN Wellington to promote Malaysian food namely, the all-time favourite Nasi Lemak with ikan bilis sambal, Roti Canai served with chicken curry, and curry puffs and doughnuts. The food was all sold-out in no time!



High Commissioner Dato' Lim, also PERWAKILAN Chair, with PERWAKILAN Wellington members at the CNY Asian Bazaar TSB Arena Building.



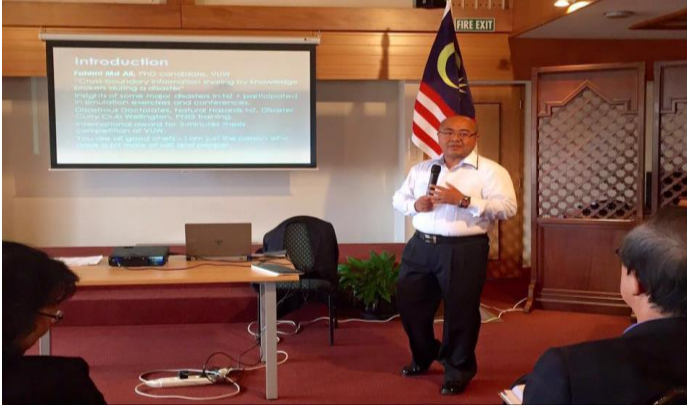
II. "Berbuka Puasa" and Farewell Dinner on 17 June 2016.



The High Commission held a "Berbuka Puasa" for all the HBS and LRS, on 17 June 2016. It was to also bid farewell to Puan Jamilah Mohd, then PA to the High Commissioner, and Puan Nora Ismail, then PA to the First Secretary (Training & Cultural – JPA). Puan Jamilah and Puan Nora served about five years and three years respectively in Wellington. Both left Wellington at the end of June and July 2016 respectively.

ADMIN AND CONSULAR

I. Emergency Preparedness Briefing on 22 March 2016 for High Commission staff.



Briefing and Emergency Drill conducted by En. Fahimi Md. Ali, a PhD. Student on Disaster Management from Victoria University in Wellington.



Gathering of staff outside the High Commission during the Emergency Drill

II. Consular Advice – Travelling In New Zealand



Local Road Travel

Road conditions are generally good in New Zealand. However, due to hilly terrain and winding roads, it takes a little while to get used to local driving conditions especially during winter. In 2015 there were 180 road deaths in New Zealand (source: New Zealand Ministry of Transport).

You are advised to read a copy of the Road Code (the official guide to traffic rules and traffic safety) before driving. Particular attention should be given to the section covering the right of way rules, which are different from other countries.

Quarantine Procedures At the International Airport

New Zealand has very strict bio-security regulations. It is illegal to import most foodstuffs (meat and meat products, honey, fruit, dairy produce etc.) and strict penalties are handed out to those breaking these rules. You may also need to take care when importing wood products, golf clubs and shoes (may have soil and dirt attached), boots (for the same reason) and items made from animal skin (e.g. crocodile skin handbags). The immigration arrivals card has full details.

If in doubt, declare possibly illegal possessions to a Ministry of Agriculture official or dump them in one of the bins available at the airport.

Failure to comply with these regulations can result in an immediate fine of NZ\$400 per item. As a result of these quarantine procedures, you should expect some delay on arrival.

Prepared by:

**High Commission of Malaysia
Wellington, New Zealand
28 July 2016**