

PROGRAMME REPORT

Inaugural Leaders for the Future programme a success

By Jo Brosnahan

Course participants (L-R) Richard Mears, John Humphrey, Greg Pert, Louise Marra (speaker), Jonathan Hulme, Kiri McRae and Adam Harvey in Auckland

THE FIRST CILT NZ Leaders for the Future programme was completed in June with a retreat in Wellington. While we only had six participants, the programme was by every measure a success. The group got on immensely well and all agreed after the three months that the experience had transformed them as leaders.

The participants were:

- Greg Pert, CEO, Transliquid Logistics, Tauranga
- Jonathan Hulme, manager of stevedoring, Ports of Auckland
- John Humphrey, Wellington area manager, KiwiRail Infrastructure and Engineering
- Kiri McRae, area manager, Port Taranaki
- Richard Mears, general manager, Canterbury, TNL Group
- Adam Harvey, operations supervisor, Port of Napier.

Auckland

The programme began with an opening retreat in Auckland. The group received an introduction to leadership, the art of conversation, and reflection and self-learning. They were introduced to the Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI), a 360-degree assessment tool by Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner, which they subsequently undertook before the second session.

Topics of focus were emergency response, the challenges of Auckland urban transport, and logistics operations at the airport. Speakers included Richard Hunt (chair, London Ambulance), Peter Bradley (CEO, St Johns Ambulance), Louise Marra (Auckland Policy Office), Terry Scott (CEO, Transdev, with a visit to Britomart), Maya Nova (Mindbalance), Dr Selina Tusitala Marsh (leader and poet), Kerr Houston (LSG Sky Chefs NZ, with a tour of Sky Chefs) and Judy Nicholl (Auckland Airport).

The participants were joined for dinner by Chin Abeywickrama, Janice Miller and Mieszko Iwaskow from CILT.

New Plymouth

In New Plymouth, the group continued to

build their understanding of their own leadership styles with feedback and coaching from the LPI. They shared life and leadership stories and learnings, and discussed the importance of leadership, conversation and story-telling.

The focus was on health and safety, and on logistics around the port and the oil industry. Speakers were Brian Ropitini (COO, Methanex NZ, with a tour of Methanex), Rob Jager (chair, Shell Todd Oil Services) and Jim Ramsay (MD, TIL). The following morning, the group toured the port, and Roy Weaver, Port Taranaki CEO, spoke with them.

The speaker in the evening was Happy Chaddie, who hosted a tour of his museum, and we were joined by Jim Ramsay and Roy Weaver.

Christchurch

The Christchurch session was focused upon aspects of leadership which the group had identified. They also continued to share their personal journeys and began the development of a personal leadership plan.

The group visited CERA, and CEO Roger Sutton was a memorable speaker on the challenges of disaster recovery and building the new Christchurch. We were able to visit the central zone and the abandoned residential suburbs. Sacha McMeeking of Catalytic Consulting spoke on Maori leadership and brought the perspective of a young leader. The group finished at the TNL offices, hosted by course participant Richard.

The group was joined at lunch by David Corlett and Craig Churchill.

Wellington

The final three days were held in Wellington with another series of high-calibre speakers. There was a focus on leadership teaching around further issues identified by the group, and the sharing of leadership plans.

Speakers were Secretary of Transport Martin Matthews, Nathan McEldowney (Mainfreight Wellington, with a visit to

Mainfreight), Murray King (Murray King and Francis Small Consultancy), Geoff Dangerfield (CEO, NZ Transport Agency), Carey Griffiths (NZ Police) and Keith Newton (executive director of CILT International).

The group attended the CILT pre-election discussion. They also were joined by Glen-Marie Burns, Murray King and Cormac McBride in an evening at the Asiana Cooking School.

Looking forward

Overall, the speakers were of high calibre, the visits were appropriate and, most importantly, the leadership learnings were significant. The participants will be graduating on the night of the CILT NZ Awards dinner and will tell their own stories. Some of their reflections on the programme are as follows:

"This course was a life-changing event; by gaining clarity on what is really important, this has given me and my team such a wider scope to succeed."

"Understanding both the theory of leadership from a subject matter expert, and then hearing from so many amazing successful people about how each of them incorporates leadership into their career within the logistics and transport industry and their life, was a humbling and profound experience."

"This was a programme that made you stop and really look hard inwardly at yourself as a person and more so as a leader, and then focus on those things for development and improvement."

The information on the 2015 programme is available at www.leadersforthefuture.co.nz.



To register your interest in the next course or to receive further information, email jo.brosnahan@gmail.com or phone 021 576 595