

Hon Grant Robertson

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Grant Robertson
Canberra, Australia 13-14 September 2018

[Published 13 March 2019]

Date: 29 January 2019

Title: Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Grant Robertson

Author: Office of the Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

These documents have been proactively released by the Associate Minister. This package includes the Cabinet paper and Minute.

Office of the Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Chair,
CABINET

**REPORT ON OVERSEAS TRAVEL: HON GRANT ROBERTSON:
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA 13-14 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Proposal

I propose that Cabinet note the report of my visit to Canberra, Australia from 13-14 September 2018.

Report

1. The purpose of the trip was to attend and represent the New Zealand Government (as an observer) at the meeting of Australian Cultural Ministers (MCM). This was attended by Australian Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield, Minister for Communications and the Arts, as well as state ministers and representatives from ACT, NSW, Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland.
2. My attendance helped trans-Tasman Arts, Culture and Heritage collaboration by progressing New Zealand towards full MCM membership; promoting the New Zealand Government and the Treasury's Living Standards Framework and planned Wellbeing Budget; and by pursuing departmental secondments and cooperation on a range of specific policy issues. Discussions at the meeting included a National Arts Disability Strategy, the Indigenous Art Code, development of a joint digital platform, and data collection.
3. I also observed Parliamentary Question Time from the Special Visitors' Gallery in Parliament House.
4. As Minister of Finance, I met with Treasurer Josh Frydenberg and discussed the trans-Tasman economic relationship, the Australian banking commission, our roles in the Pacific, and the potential for work around retirement savings

portability. He expressed an interest in visiting New Zealand and noted the importance of the relationship, and of regular communication.

5. I also met with Australian shadow Ministers (Hon Chris Bowen - shadow Treasurer; Hon Jim Chalmers – shadow Finance; and Hon Andrew Leigh – shadow Assistant Treasurer).
6. At the NZ High Commissioner’s residence, I attended a roundtable lunch with senior Australian economic officials (Martin Parkinson – Secretary, PM&C; Rosemary Huxtable – Secretary, Finance; Peter Woolcott – Australian Public Service Commissioner; and Simon Duggan – First Assistant Secretary, Economic, PM&C).

Recommendation

1. I recommend that Cabinet note this report.

Hon Grant Robertson
Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

January 2019



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Grant Robertson

Portfolios **Finance / Associate Arts, Culture and Heritage**

On 29 January 2019, Cabinet **noted** the report from Hon Grant Robertson under CAB-19-SUB-0003 on his travel, from 13 to 14 September 2018, to Canberra, Australia to attend and represent the New Zealand government at the meeting of Australian Cultural Ministers and to have portfolio-related discussions.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Hard-copy distribution:

Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Hon Grant Robertson