

18 December 2020

ANZCCJ establishes new committee - Technology, Innovation, Education & Research (TIER) as relationships among Australia, New Zealand and Japan continue to grow

The Australian and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ANZCCJ) has established a new committee, TIER, to cover the technology, innovation, education and research sectors, in addition to its existing committees (FAHC – Food, Agriculture & Hospitality and SFB – Sports for Business). The aim of the committee is to promote accurate understanding of the current status of these domains in Australia, New Zealand and Japan for better collaborative opportunities.

Japan is Australia's second largest and New Zealand's fourth largest trading partner and the trade and business relationships between Japan and these two countries continue to grow, including those the TIER Committee seeks to cover.

ANZCCJ is hosting a launch series to mark the establishment of this Committee, the first event of which took place on 17 December with a theme "Innovation Though the Decade Ahead: How can Australia lead the way?". The second event, focusing on New Zealand green & digital technologies, is currently being scheduled for early 2021.

ANZCCJ Chair Sally Townsend said, "The TIER Committee will form an important pillar of the ANZCCJ's activities over the long term. One of the key goals of the committee is to create a forum for organisations and individuals from Australia and New Zealand to interact with their peers in Japan while helping the broader communities to appreciate and celebrate the success stories, in the areas of technology, innovation, education and research".

In an video message shared to celebrate the launch of the Committee yesterday, Australian Ambassador Jan Adams AO PSM commented, "These four pillars are very relevant and important aspects of the special relationship and strategic partnership between Australia and Japan. There are many further opportunities for future collaboration - that's why you have established the committee. I look forward to supporting the ANZCCJ TIER Committee to further strengthen this important bilateral relationship."

The TIER Committee is chaired by Kohei Tamura from Rio Tinto, supported by Vice Chairs, Tim Tout from HummingByrd Inc. and Yoshifumi Imamura from New Zealand Trade & Enterprise.



About ANZCCJ

The ANZCCJ is an independent, non-profit organisation that has been dedicated to the development of commerce between Australia, New Zealand and Japan since 1972.

The ANZCCJ currently has approximately 650 members, representing over 13 different sectors. This diverse membership base consists of Australian and New Zealand members conducting business in Japan, Japanese companies with economic ties to Australia and New Zealand, overseas members and others maintaining business relationships between Japan and Australia/ New Zealand.

The ANZCCJ holds a variety of events such as meetings with visiting Australian and New Zealand Government leaders, industry experts and political figures, informative seminars and social networking evenings. These events give members the opportunity to keep abreast of changes in foreign policy and economic conditions, gain knowledge regarding different aspects of the Japanese market and develop new business and social contacts.

The joint patrons of the ANZCCJ are the Australian and New Zealand Ambassadors who host a number of functions during the year at their respective Embassies