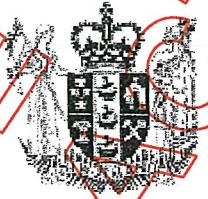




NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE



16 December 2013

Minister of Foreign Affairs

For action by 24 December 2013

CALGARY: APPOINTMENT OF NZ HONORARY-CONSUL

SUBMISSION Issue

PURPOSE To seek the formal approval of the Governor-General to the appointment of Mr Stephen Gregory Snyder as New Zealand's Honorary-Consul in Calgary, Canada.

Recommended referrals

Nil

Contacts



9(2)(g)(ii)

Minister's Office Comments

Signed / Referred

Date: 16/12/13

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Key points

- On 31 January 2013, the Governor-General formally approved the establishment of Consulates and the appointment of honorary consuls in a number of countries, consistent with our strategic priorities. This approval included the appointment of an Honorary-Consul in Calgary, Canada. The search for a suitable candidate has been completed and a business case supporting the nomination has been endorsed by the Chief Executive.
- This submission now seeks your formal approval to the nomination of Mr Stephen Gregory Snyder as Honorary-Consul for New Zealand resident in Calgary with consular jurisdiction throughout Calgary. The Canadian authorities have not yet agreed to this appointment.
- Attached is the business case and a CV for Mr Snyder.
- A Consular Commission of Appointment will be returned for your counter-signature once signed by the Governor-General.

Recommendations

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **Agree** to the formal nomination of Steve Snyder as Honorary- Consul for New Zealand in Calgary. Yes / No
- 2 If you agree, **refer** the attached letter and formal submission requesting the Governor-General's approval to the appointment. Yes / No


Andrea Smith
For Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION - OTTAWA

25 November 2013

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade
WELLINGTON

**Proposal to appoint Steve Snyder to the position of
New Zealand Honorary Consul in Calgary**

Purpose of submission

This submission is to seek approval for the establishment of a New Zealand Consulate and the appointment of Stephen (Steve) Gregory Snyder as Honorary Consul in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, with consular jurisdiction over Calgary. (f)

9(2)(g)(i)

This appointment would support New Zealand's economic objectives in the province of Alberta.

Contacts

High Commissioner
Division Manager


Simon Tucker
Jane Coombs, AMER

Submission

We seek your approval for Stephen (Steve) Gregory Snyder is appointed to a three year term from December 2013 as New Zealand Honorary Consul in Calgary, Canada.

Comments: _____

Approved Declined

Signed:  26/11/13
John Allen, Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

Report

Introduction

The High Commission together with the input of NZTE in Vancouver has identified the province of Alberta as a region with potential for greater NZ engagement. Appointment of an Honorary Consul, though would support enhanced trade and investment, and deepen engagement with government policy, energy, defence, technology and agricultural sectors in the province.

2 Alberta is the wealthiest province in Canada and maintains a business friendly environment. Calgary is the largest city in the province and home to Canada's oil/energy industry, which is a primary driver of the Canadian economy. Calgary is also the business capital of the province and the home to a large number of corporate head offices. As one of the fastest growing regions of Canada and home to the current Prime Minister, it is also an important and growing political power base within Canada.

3 In 2013, the High Commission undertook a process to identify a suitable candidate for Honorary Consul in Calgary.

4 Mr Snyder has longstanding business connections with New Zealand. He is former CEO of TransAlta and was responsible for the investment in the NZ energy sector in the 1990s. He has accordingly visited New Zealand on many occasions.

6 We have outlined to Mr Snyder the responsibilities of the Honorary Consul position and he has agreed in principle to accept the appointment, subject by approval from New Zealand and Canada. He understands the scope of the position, including the range of representational activities, maintaining contacts, consular assistance, information dissemination and support for NZ business.

Links to post's strategic priorities

7 Appointment of an Honorary Consul is aimed at improving our political and economic leverage in the Province of Alberta. We anticipate that Mr Snyder will assist with authoritative advice on how to grow our trade and investment links in Alberta and will provide introduction to useful contacts, especially in the energy sector. There is strong alignment between the energy sector and government in the province of Alberta.

8 The overriding objective of establishing the Honorary Consul is to improve our economic relationship. This is set out in our operational plan. Priority areas are:

- Pursue trade and economic integration in the Asia Pacific (TPP)
- Help New Zealand firms to internationalise and export

9 These also support the objectives of NZTE (see below – support for NZ business).

Support for Ministerial visits and representational activities

10 We have already proposed a visit to Canada/Alberta by the Minister of Energy for the first half of 2014 and we understand the Minister is keen to undertake such a visit.

11 Recent visits by the High Commission in Ottawa to the Province of Alberta have been focussed on building a stronger relationship with the Provincial Government and the Alberta energy sector. In the energy sector in New Zealand we see potential oppor.

6(a)

6(a)

9(2)(b)

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Consular services

14 Mr Snyder will take on responsibility for the delivery consular services in Calgary as required. The High Commission in Ottawa will provide the necessary briefings to undertake these consular duties. The number of consular requests from Calgary is relatively low and the High Commission would provide support for Honorary Consul in Calgary as necessary.

Reporting and networks

15 The High Commissioner would keep in regular contact with the Honorary Consul in Calgary and reporting would be provided as necessary. This is the same approach taken with the Honorary Consul in Toronto.

Risks

16 We have not identified any potential risks/conflicts of interest.

Consultation

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9(2)(a)

9(2)(ba)

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(ba)

Comments

9(2)(g)(i)

21 On the honorarium, Snyder has told us that he would donate any honorarium to charity.

High Commissioner
OTTAWA

Regional division manager
WELLINGTON

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Steve Snyder



Mr. Snyder retired as the President and CEO of TransAlta Corporation on January 1, 2012, a position he held since 1996. Previously, he was President & CEO of Noma Industries Ltd., GE Canada Inc., and Camco, Inc. He is co-chair of the Calgary Stampede Foundation Campaign and a Director of the Canadian Stem Cell Foundation. Mr. Snyder was also a member of the Board of TransAlta Corporation until January 1, 2012 and is a past Director of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. He is the past Chair of the following organizations: Alberta Secretariat for Action on Homelessness, the Calgary Committee to End Homelessness, the Calgary Homeless Foundation, the Canada-Alberta ecoEnergy Carbon Capture & Storage Task Force, the Conference Board of Canada, the Calgary Zoological Society, the Canadian Electrical Association, the United Way Campaign of Calgary and Area, and the Calgary Zoo's "Destination Africa" capital campaign. He was awarded the Alberta Centennial Medal in 2005, the Conference Board of Canada 2008 Honorary Associate Award, the Chamber of Commerce Sherrold Moore Award of Excellence in 2009, the Canadian Energy Person of the Year Award by the Energy Council of Canada in 2010 and was Alberta OIC week's CEO of the year for 2011.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs
has the honour to submit for Your Excellency's
approval that

STEPHEN GREGORY SNYDER

be appointed

Honorary-Consul for New Zealand
resident in Calgary, Alberta, Canada



Minister of Foreign Affairs
Wellington

Approved:



Governor-General

19 Dec / 2013



COPY

Jerry Mateparae
Governor-General

I, LIEUTENANT GENERAL THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR JERRY MATEPARAE GNZM QSO, Chancellor and Principal Knight Grand Companion of The New Zealand Order of Merit, Principal Companion of The Queen's Service Order, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over New Zealand, exercising powers assigned to me by Her Majesty The Queen of New Zealand, and all other powers me thereunto enabling, hereby appoint **STEPHEN GREGORY SNYDER** to be Honorary-Consul for New Zealand resident in Calgary, Alberta, Canada and with consular jurisdiction throughout Calgary.

Given under my Hand and issued
under the Seal of New Zealand this
23rd day of December 2013

By His Excellency's Command,

Murray McCully
Hon Murray McCully

Minister of Foreign Affairs