



POST LEARNING EVENT REPORTING TEMPLATE

As part of eThekweni Municipality's commitment to strengthen our organisation's culture of learning and sharing, this form presents information on a recent out of town trip, visit, learning exchange undertaken by an official from the municipality. This information will be posted on the MILE website (www.mile.org.za) in the interest of advancing our **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT** agenda. Thank you for taking the time to complete the form.

1. What was the NAME OF THE EVENT?

World Surf Cities Network AGM and Surf Conference

2. The DATE attended:

26/02/2013 to 01/03/2013

3. VENUE

(further details on venue)

Kirri Community hall in Coolengatta, Australia

4. OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED?

Mrs T Adams

5. What area of expertise did the event cover?

Culture, heritage and sport	x	Engineering and the built environment	x	IT and Finance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development and Tourism	x	Health and Safety	x	City strategy and planning	x
Energy and the natural environment	x	Good governance	x		

Other:

6. What was the PURPOSE OF THE EVENT, THE BROAD OBJECTIVES, AND THEMES? Why was it of importance?

The WSCN representatives meet once a year to review their strategies, priorities and relationships with each other and to measure the success/failures of the previous year's initiatives for their own cities.

The Surf conference elaborated on new surf equipment, economical trends, tourism and preservation of surf reserves, establishment of coastal management plans, surf management plans, sand pumping schemes, establishment of artificial surfing and diving reefs and ocean sewerage management.

7. What in your opinion are some of the KEY LEARNINGS that you came away with? In other words, what stood out for you? Were there any "aha!" learning moments that you can share with colleagues? What were some of the KEY OBSERVATIONS that were important or different?

WOW moments:

1. The necessity for the city to have a well documented aquatourism plan and the necessity for city leadership to actively support the process and to re- establish the surf culture which used to put our city on a WORLD WIDE MAP (does not exist in Dbn)
2. Establishment of Surf Reserves where only water users (not fisherman, boats or swimmers) are able to access the best waves in the city.
3. The importance and necessity for the city to take responsibility and action against the sewerage being pumped into our oceans and infecting people and fish. The Establishment of "Surfers agains Sewage" movement to hold the government responsible.
4. Implementation of a UV system in all sewage plants which is cheap and very effective.
5. How building artificial reefs at predetermined locations can help to deposit sand on beaches and save huge expenses hiring a dredger and pumping sand.
6. Reefs can also create amazing waves which attract surfers from all over the world to visit the city and bolster tourism and attract international events.

8. As a result of this event, what is the ONE CHANGE that you may consider making backing back at work, if any? What follow ups are envisaged?

The sand pumping scheme officials in Coolengatta have been connected to the Coastal Management Engineer. They are working together and learning from each other.

The Blue Flag Beach necessary for international beach status will be brought back to the city

Through the WSCN, Durban has prioritized two Major projects which it is working on before other strategies can be successfully established i.e. improvement of water quality and improvement of wave quality.

9. Please indicate details of useful CONTACTS AND NETWORKS that were established during the event?

Mr John Nielsen, Chairman of the Coolengatta WSCN committee and "Champion of surf" in Gold Coast. Johnnielsen50@hotmail.com

Mr James Eggington, Surfing Australia, High Performance Centre Manager. james@surfingaustralia.com

Prof Ian Eddie of the Southern Cross University and Deputy Chairman of Gold Coast Surf city inc.

Mr Danny OBrien, Assoc Prof of Sport Management in the school of Health Sciences at the Bond University

Mr Chris Hines, activist and creator of "Surfers against sewage" in UK who has been instrumental in getting government to commit to purifying and disinfecting sewage before it is leaked into the oceans.

Miss Clare Ramsey and Adam Bambrick, Gold Coast municipal officials in the International Relations Dept. CRamsey@goldcoast.gov.au

Maite Ayestaran, manager of the World Surf Cities Network in San Sebastian, Spain. www.worldsurfcitiesnetwork.com

Mr Helmut Rangger and Kevin Filer, management of the Tweed sand bypass site and pumping station. Helmut.Rangger@lands.nsw.gov.au

10. One of the key functions of our MILE website is to serve as a repository of LEARNING DOCUMENTATION, VIDEOS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER RESOURCE MATERIAL. Please can send such material to mile@durban.gov.za so that it can be uploaded onto our website.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO BUILD A LEARNING ORGANISATION