

ITEM 9. KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SPONSORSHIP - GLOBAL SUMMIT OF WOMEN 2018

FILE NO: X013353

SUMMARY

An application for sponsorship under the Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship Program has been received from Salvation Communications Pty Ltd to support the Global Summit of Women 2018, to be held at the ICC Sydney from 26-28 April 2018.

The Global Summit of Women is an annual, international women's economic forum that has been running for 27 years. The mission of the Summit is to bring together women leaders from the public, corporate and non-profit sectors under the common vision of expanding women's economic opportunities globally.

In 2018, the theme of the Summit is *Women: Creating Economies of Shared Value*. It will highlight the ability of women to develop a more inclusive economy as women advance their own businesses and careers. The program will cover topics such as the megatrend of globalisation v populism; gender diversity; the importance of millennials for 21st century economies; growing business with technology; skills building sessions in leadership, entrepreneurship and business management; the future workplace; and the nexus between energy and women's economic empowerment.

The Summit format is a series of panel discussions, roundtables, breakout sessions and networking events. The program will feature 80 speakers from around the world.

The organisers anticipate 1,000 delegates from around the world will attend the Summit. Australian government representatives include the Hon. Julie Bishop, Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Hon. Michaelia Cash, Senator, Minister for Women and Minister for Employment, and the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, Premier of NSW. A number of international government representatives will also be attending, as will a wide range of industry leaders from around the world.

The application has been evaluated and support of \$20,000 + GST cash for the Summit, particularly the farewell delegate dinner, is recommended.

Sponsorship of the Global Summit of Women aligns with the City's Economic Development Strategy, particularly in the advancement of inclusive economies, the importance of global connections to ensure Sydney's competitiveness and supporting women entrepreneurs by identifying and addressing the barriers to women launching and scaling startup businesses, with a particular focus on accessing skills, knowledge and mentoring.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash sponsorship of \$20,000 (excluding GST); and
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and enter into a sponsorship agreement with Salvation Communications Pty Ltd in respect of the City's sponsorship of Global Summit of Women 2018 described in clause (A) above.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

BACKGROUND

1. The Global Summit of Women is an annual, international economic women's forum that has been running for 27 years. The mission of the Summit is to bring together women leaders from the public, corporate and non-profit sectors under the common vision of expanding women's economic opportunities globally. 1,000 delegates from all around the world are expected to attend.
2. The Summit is held over three days, with breakfasts, lunches and dinners providing networking opportunities.
3. The Summit features a Roundtable for Women Government Ministers on best practices in public/private sector partnership for advancing women's economic opportunities, plenary sessions which cover regional and global megatrends that impact economies around the world, and a Women CEO Forum on Defining the Workplace of the Future.
4. The Summit includes practical strategies for business growth – personal and entrepreneurial – developed in different parts of the world, skills-building sessions in three tracks: Leadership Development, Entrepreneurial and Issues, and creative tips from women entrepreneurs succeeding in the global economy.
5. The Summit will encourage the exchange of ideas and knowledge, showcase local expertise and encourage dialogue on local and global issues.
6. The Summit will increase skills and networks, as participants can share resources and acquire new knowledge and skills, and valuable networks can be formed and maintained.
7. The City will be acknowledged as a sponsor of the event and receive prominent recognition in the program book, marketing collateral, event website and event signage. The City will receive two registrations to the event.
8. The City will work with the organisers to develop a framework to evaluate how the event achieves the identified outcomes.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Alignment

9. The Summit aligns with Sustainable Sydney 2030 and the City's Economic Development Strategy through its aims to:
 - (a) bridge the gap between economic growth and social inclusion;
 - (b) open up global markets for women's economic enterprises of all sizes;
 - (c) ensure women's access to digital technology and STEM education; and
 - (d) create companies of shared leadership.

Social / Cultural / Community

10. The Summit aligns with the City's Social Sustainability Policy, which identifies that cities that make equality and social justice central to their growth are stronger and more resilient, creating opportunities for everyone to thrive.

Environmental

11. The program includes a number of sessions covering environmental topics, such as greening your business.

Economic

12. The City's Economic Development Strategy identifies that the City can make important and direct contributions to promote a vibrant and dynamic environment that facilitates economic growth, especially in the context of a changing business environment.
13. The Strategy acknowledges the value of tacit and explicit knowledge flows, raising Sydney's profile as a global and intelligent city with strong connectivity and networks with other global cities. Sponsorship of the Global Summit of Women, with its number of international participants, including many government representatives, will contribute to this.
14. The City supports an inclusive economy and balanced growth in which there are equitable opportunities for all its citizens to maintain the City's productivity advantage. The City implements initiatives which support the education and skills development of disadvantaged communities. The Global Summit of Women focuses on gender equity to bridge the gap between economic growth and social inclusion.
15. The Summit also highlights the importance of developing women leaders locally. It cites the example of women holding just one in eight seats on the boards of Asia's largest public companies.
16. The City's Tech Startups Action Plan acknowledges that the lack of participation of women in the workforce is often framed as a "women's issue" to be solved for the benefit of women, in the interest of gender equity. In fact, it is an economic issue that affects everyone.
17. The Action Plan states that the City will work to support women to create and scale high growth companies, as these tech startups are key to job creation and leadership in new industries. Women now make up nearly half the workforce and more than half of our university students, so their lack of representation in building high-growth firms has become a major economic deficit. The Summit includes entrepreneurship education which can contribute to the City's objective of identifying and addressing the barriers to women launching and scaling tech startups.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

18. There are sufficient funds allocated for this sponsorship within the current year's Knowledge Exchange Sponsorship Program budget for the current financial year.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

19. Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

20. The Global Summit of Women is scheduled for 26-28 April 2018.

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