



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release-October 1, 2012

For further information, contact:

Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director

Marianas Visitors Authority

Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237

mva@mymarianas.com

www.mymarianas.com

MTEC ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Marianas Tourism Education Council (MTEC) held its annual general membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2012, electing two new members to the Board of Directors and receiving good news about funding for this year's youth tourism summit.

Naomi Nishimura of the Public School System and Esther Sound of Delta Air Lines were unanimously elected to the Board of Directors. Chris Lubi of Ernst & Young was also officially sanctioned as MTEC Treasurer, replacing Nhing Reyes.

"I thank the members of the Board for their trust and confidence and I am looking forward to work with the council and contribute in whichever way I can, operationally and administratively, in its efforts to engage our students and the community in promoting tourism awareness in the CNMI," said Lubi.

MTEC is gearing up for its next round of educational presentations at Northern Marianas public and private schools this school year, as well as the next MTEC Tourism Summit for MY WAVE (Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Clubs in October 2012. This year's summit will be funded by the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) through a federal grant from the Office of

Insular Affairs (OIA).

“OIA recently funded four visitor industry related programs largely aimed at increasing public awareness of the workings and significance of the industry, and getting the community more actively involved in supporting the industry,” said MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio. “MTEC is doing a phenomenal job at engaging our students with tourism education. The MVA is very pleased to partner with them on this year’s summit, and we thank the office of Congressman Gregorio Kilili for helping us secure this grant to do so.”

“Our focus is to continue to organize MY WAVE Clubs through the educational outreach program.” said MTEC President Vicky Benavente. “We welcome private businesses, government offices, and members of the community to join MTEC’s initiatives.”

The council is a non-profit organization aimed at educating the public on the importance of the tourism industry. To sign up for MTEC membership, please contact MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas at mduenas@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3210.

Other individuals in attendance at the meeting were Alex Sablan of Tan Holdings Corp.; Daniel Quitugua; Larry Lee of Northern Marianas College; MY Wave Club advisors Jenn Castro of Hopwood Jr. High School, Marylou Dejillas of San Antonio Elementary, and Monica Pangelinan of Willim S. Reyes Elementary; James Nelson of Docomo Pacific; Bobbi Iglesias of Marianas CableVision; and representatives of the MVA.



Chris Lubi of Ernst & Young was endorsed as treasurer of the Marianas Tourism Education Council during their annual general membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2012.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

###