



19 July 2017

Palmerston North to host NZ Chefs Association 2019 conference

The Central Branch of the NZ Chefs Association conference is proud to be able to bring the biannual National Chefs Conference to Palmerston North in 2019.

The confirmation of hosting the conference was unanimously decided at this year's biannual conference in Dunedin.

NZ Chefs Association Central Branch President, Damian Peeti says that the credit for having such a strong bid was the endorsement of the Palmerston North City Council along with collaborative partners Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA), FoodHQ, UCOL and the local branch committee.

"We are excited that we will be able to showcase our region to the rest of the country," says Mr Peeti.

"The tastes of the nation will converge on Manawatu to discuss and embrace the culinary and food innovation concepts. The conference will embrace food science, development and technologies through to education, distribution and industry – change is underway to meet the increasing diversity of consumers' preferences," says Mr Peeti.

The Central Branch of the New Zealand Chefs Association represents the regions of Hawke's Bay, Gisborne, Horowhenua, Kapiti and Whanganui.

"What better location to host the conference than Palmerston North. The southern hemisphere's home of food innovation – learn with us, explore the flavours of Manawatu, and add your input on how we should approach the dining experience now and into the future.

Phil Hildred, the Conventions and Events Executive at CEDA, coordinated and produced the successful bid and says Palmerston North is an ideal location for the nationwide conference.

"We anticipate there will be around 200 plus participants including chefs, teachers, industry and hospitality, food producers, young chefs, and the like, for the conference in July 2019."

"We anticipate the conference will have a \$140,000 economic impact on Palmerston North City and Manawatu."

Please find attached a proposed conference bid programme prepared by CEDA.

For further information please contact:

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