

SENTINEL EXPERIENCE ... a cultural journey

A company not for gain

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10 March 2008

Councillor Marga Haywood
Ward 74
Sub-Council 16 (Good Hope)
Cape Town

Dear City Councillor,

PARTNERSHIP HOUT BAY, South Africa – KARLSRUHE, Germany

Considerable effort has gone into getting this "twinning" project off the ground. It is clear that contact between peoples is important for promoting human understanding. It is also clear that we have much to offer each other in specific fields of commerce and trade, especially consolidating and developing tourism into Hout Bay, which though we like to joke is its own Republic, we know we are part of Cape Town first and of South Africa.

Together with tourism goes the prospect of cultural exchanges which have their own interpersonal values, but are also part of strengthening the tourism industry thus enhancing job creation to some extent. We hope that this will lead to an extension of the tourism season to reduce the down time when employment drops off so sharply.

One of the ways this could happen is through exchanges of jurists in large and small groups since Karlsruhe is the seat of the Federal Republic of Germany's highest Appeal Court. We would hope that Hout Bay would be the Cape Town host of such distinguished visitors and that would help to encourage Hout Bay's large German community into constructive interaction with the broader Hout Bay community.

You will recall that we have spoken about the Sentinel Experience heritage project highlighting the particular place of our part of the country as the home of the First People who are celebrated on our national coat of arms. This project of course sees that history in the context of our national goal of recognising our many cultures but building one nation. One notices that Germany over many generations has largely achieved that goal while acknowledging regional styles of folk music and dance, cuisine, etc. Given time and good models to observe we can through the Karlsruhe – Hout Bay partnership contribute to achieving this goal in South Africa.

The endorsement letters from the German Consul General, from the German South Africa Chamber of Commerce, our national Ministry of Environment and Tourism and those from supporters of the partnership project from the Hout Bay cultural, tourism and business community highlight these very important possibilities. We look forward to receiving your active participation in winning the support of our City for this project.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Denis Goldberg
Chairman