

Proactive Release

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The following Cabinet paper has been proactively released by the Minister for Trade and Investment

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision: Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2024</i>	CAB-24-MIN-0481
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2024</i>	



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2024

Portfolio Trade

On 9 December 2024, Cabinet:

- 1 **authorised** the absence of Hon Todd McClay from New Zealand in mid-December 2024 (dates to be confirmed) to meet with the Indian Commerce Minister;
- 2 **agreed** that he be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3 **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$31,658 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4 **noted** that he will also be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, whose costs will be met by their agency;
- 5 **agreed** that in his absence:
 - 5.1 Hon Nicola Grigg act as Minister of Agriculture and Minister for Trade;
 - 5.2 Hon Simon Watts act as Minister of Forestry;
 - 5.3 Hon Tama Potaka act as Minister for Hunting and Fishing;
- 6 **noted** that leave from Parliament has been approved.

Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

~~In Confidence~~

Office of the Minister for Trade

Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Todd McClay – December 2024

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to travel to New Delhi, India, in mid-December, in my capacity as Minister for Trade.
- 2 The Chief of Staff has approved the travel in-principle, and leave has been approved by the Party Whip.

Purpose of Travel

- 3 The primary purpose of my visit is to meet with my counterpart, Commerce Minister Goyal.
- 4 The Government has said that lifting the relationship with India is a strategic priority for New Zealand. We are committed to building stronger, deeper, and broader connections across all parts of the relationship. This visit would allow us to further demonstrate this ambition to the Indian people and government.

Ministerial Party

- 5 I will be accompanied by:
 - 5.1 One staff member from my office;
 - 5.2 Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). All costs for MFAT staff will be covered from within the Ministry's baseline budget.

Travel Costs

- 6 Total estimated costs are comprised of:

Airfares	\$ 26,000.00
Accommodation	\$ 2,500.00
Hospitality & misc	\$ 1,650.00
Contingency (5%)	\$ 1,508.00
Total:	\$ 31,658.00

Acting Ministers

7 If my travel is approved, I note that the House is sitting during my absence. I propose the following colleagues act in my portfolios. This is subject to final confirmation.

7.1 Hon Grigg - Agriculture

7.2 Hon Watts – Forestry

7.3 Hon Potaka – Hunting and Fishing

7.4 Hon Grigg - Trade

Recommendations

1. I recommend that Cabinet:

1.1 authorise my absence from New Zealand in mid-December to meet with Indian Commerce Minister Goyal;

1.2 approve the estimated expenditure of \$31,658 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs - Members of the Executive – Travel;

1.3 note that I will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose travel costs will be met by within the Ministry's baseline budget;

1.4 agree that in my absence:

1.4.1 Hon Grigg will be Acting Minister of Agriculture

1.4.2 Hon Watts will be Acting Minister of Forestry

1.4.3 Hon Potaka will be Acting Minister for Hunting and Fishing

1.4.4 Hon Grigg will be Acting Minister for Trade

1.5 note that the House is sitting during my absence;

1.6 note that leave from Parliament has been approved by the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Todd McClay

Minister for Trade