

## Press Release

10 December 2007

# Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton Officially Opens

Hamilton's brand new Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton was opened this morning, with an official ceremony attended by Maori King Kiingi Tuheitia, Hamilton Mayor Bob Simcock and David Baffsky AO – Chairman Accor Asia Pacific.

More than 100 people attended the ceremony, including representatives from the Council, Tainui and Accor, along with other members of the local and regional business and tourism community.

Guests were welcomed on site with a Karanga performed by members of the local Tainui tribe. The ceremony also included a special Karakia / Prayer, a Mihi / Welcome, the unveiling of the plaque and finished with an energetic Kapa Haka performance.

"I think the collaboration between Tainui iwi, our company, and the Council is a reflection of how partnerships and new relations can create opportunities for growth in trade, investment, employment and, most importantly, understanding," said Mr Baffsky.

Hotel Manager Philip Hilton said the ceremony was an exciting way to officially open the hotel after a long build up.

"It has taken a lot of hard work by a lot of people to create this brand new hotel and we are looking forward to impressing guests with our service and facilities. Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton will be a great new asset for the city, filling a gap in the market and providing excellent value for money."

The newly built hotel is a joint venture between Hamilton City Council, Tainui Group Holdings - the business arm of the Tainui tribe – and the Accor group of hotels and resorts. It is Hamilton's first Ibis hotel, the group's international 3 star brand, and will join Accor's global network of more than 4,000 hotels in nearly 100 countries.

### **Introducing Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton:**

Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton is ideal for both business and leisure travellers, with excellent modern facilities, friendly service and a superb central location overlooking the Waikato River.

The hotel has 126 rooms – king, twin or triple – with interconnecting family rooms and seven special access rooms available. Accommodation features include Sky TV, high speed internet access, air conditioning, refrigerator and tea and coffee making facilities.

There is also a stylish restaurant and bar on site, with a relaxed atmosphere and fantastic al fresco dining with river views. The hotel has extensive facilities created to cater for a wide range of functions, conferences and meetings with flexible options for different occasions.

Guests can enjoy other conveniences such as 24 hour reception, foreign currency exchange, safety deposit boxes, laundry facilities and dry cleaning service and also have access to all of the facilities at Hotel Ibis' sister hotel Novotel Tainui Hamilton directly across the road.

Hotel Ibis Tainui Hamilton is just a few minutes walk to SkyCity Casino, the local shopping precinct and a wide range of restaurants, cafes and bars and is also close to Waikato Stadium. Just 20 minutes from Hamilton International Airport and with its central location, this hotel is the perfect base to explore the beautiful Waikato region.

**Accor**, the European leader and a major global group in hotels, the global leader in services to corporate clients and public institutions, operates in nearly 100 countries with 170,000 employees. It offers to its clients over 40 years of expertise in its two core businesses:

- **Hotels**, with the **Sofitel, Pullman, Novotel, Mercure, Suitehotel, Ibis, All Seasons, Etap Hotel, Formule 1** and **Motel 6 brands**, representing more than 4,000 hotels and nearly 500,000 rooms in 90 countries, as well as strategically related activities, such as **Lenôtre**.
- **Services**, with 23 million people in nearly 40 countries benefiting from **Accor Services** products in human resources, marketing services and expense management.

\*\* Please note more images are available on request

## **Ends**

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