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To Whom It May Concern

## Camera Obscura

It is with considerable pleasure that I provide this letter of support for the Camera Obscura's application to the Provincial Growth Fund. The Camera Obscura represents to opportunity to add to Northland's tourist attractions with a unique facility which provides another alternative for visitors to Northland.

The Camera Obscura fits perfectly with our strategy of seeking more tourism product for Northland. Northland tourism performs strongly in summer but a lack of tourism product and attractions means that tourism is very seasonal. With the advent of the Hundertwasser Wairau Maori Arts Centre, the Hihiaua Cultural Centre, and the Camera Obscura we will start to develop further attractions and encourage visitors to "stay another day in Whangarei". With Cruise vessels likely to dock at Marsden point within two years we need a series of attractions within a 45 minute drive of the port. In addition the Camera Obscura fits nicely with the Twin Coast Discovery programme which is being promoted by local and central government.

The Whangarei District Council will provide ongoing support for the project by picking up all running costs as well as landscaping the area around the Camera Obscura. We anticipate that the Camera Obscura will be a very popular tourist and educational attraction on our outstanding Hatea loop walk.

Once again I commend the Camera Obscura as a fine project for Provincial Growth funding.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a circular scribble followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Rob Forlong**  
Chief Executive  
Whangarei District Council