

## **CNMI ISLAND REPORT AND GENERAL UPDATE**

### **187<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting**

#### **COVID- 19 update:**

The CNMI has maintained a Level 1 (low) COVID-19 infection state since my last report.

Currently, 78.5% of eligible CNMI population is fully vaccinated and we presently do not have community COVID infections.

However, as the Delta variant has steadily been increasing its presence in other areas of the world, the CNMI has reinstated its mandatory 5-day quarantine procedures for all arriving passengers. We now have a third hotel identified as a quarantine facility as a precautionary move. Overall, the CNMI Government has handled the COVID virus pandemic well.

#### **FISHING NEWS:**

As previously reported, fishing activities remain minimally impacted by existing COVID-19 related restrictions. Fresh fish sales remain depressed due to the non-existent tourist industry.

#### **ECONOMY**

The CNMI tourist industry has made some progress since my last report; however, there continues to be talk about starting it up slowly with South Korea and Japan using the CNMI's Tourism Bubble concept.

Federal disaster relief funds are now flowing into the CNMI and is supporting certain segments of the economy, such as the construction and engineering support businesses.