



LA PCG Attends a Forum Organized by the Coconut Coalition of the Americas

06 March 2019, Anaheim CA – The Philippine Consulate General, represented by Consul Ambrosio Brian Enciso III, participated in a Forum entitled *Cocktails and Conversation with Dr. Mary Newport* organized by the Coconut Coalition of the Americas (CCA) held on Wednesday, 06 March 2019, at the Anaheim Hilton.



(photo L-R) Dr. Newport, Agriculture Attaché Javelosa, Consul Enciso and Trade Commissioner Layug chat before the start of the Forum.

Also representing the Philippine government in the Forum was PHL Trade Commissioner in San Francisco, May Niña Celyne P. Layug and Agriculture Attaché based in Washington D.C., Josyline C. Javelosa.

The forum's guest speaker, Dr. Mary Newport is a practicing neonatal specialist and is known for her advocacy on coconut oil and its amazing capacity to improve the quality of life of patients suffering from various neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Dementia and Parkinson's.



Agriculture Attaché Javelosa and Trade Commissioner Layug meet with officials and members of the Coalition after of the Forum.

During the lecture, Dr. Newport shared her personal story on how ketones from coconut oil drastically improved her husband's cognition in spite having Alzheimer's disease. Her personal experience and tireless advocacy has sparked further research into how ketones can become alternative fuel for the brain, as well as how ketones could significantly affect metabolic pathways as they help burn fat, lower blood sugar and preserve muscle while losing weight.

The Forum is part of the Coalition's thrust to use science, sound research and personal testimonial to counter the negative press received by coconut oil in recent months, particularly in mid-2018 with the surfacing of a widely-circulated video that showed adjunct professor of epidemiology at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Karin Michels saying coconut oil is not healthy and calling it "poison" at least three times.

In a group discussion with Philippine Agriculture Attaché Javelosa and Trade Attaché Layug, Consul Enciso expressed the need to bolster the coconut industry in the Philippines being one of the leading exporters of the said product to the world. END.