

Coming To AIM National Conference? Grants & Support Available

It won't be long now until AIM National Conference 2016 takes place from the 23 – 25 June at the beautiful Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. The Early Bird booking rates for AIM members closes on **24 April**, so don't miss out. Prices start at £45 a day and this offer is for AIM members only. More details about this offer can be found on the Conference 2016 Booking page.

AIM can also offer Training Grants for members to help cover conference costs. The deadline for applications for these grants is Friday **13 May** at 5pm. There are also other ways that you can benefit; please visit the AIM blog to see what other support is available.

Museum Development North West have announced that they are offering two free places at this year's AIM Conference. These two opportunities are open to all museum professionals in the North West, except members of staff of Major Partner Museums and National Museums. Please visit the Museum Development North West website for further information.

Lunch For Chairs

AIM will be hosting a Chairs' lunch on the first day of conference which is kindly sponsored this year by Development Partners. The purpose of the event is to provide Chairs with an opportunity to meet, get to know each other and share ideas, as well as giving AIM the opportunity to meet you and hear your views about how we could support Trustees more in the future.

We are delighted that we will be joined by guest speaker, The Right Honourable Henry McLeish, who was the First Minister of Scotland from 2000 -2001. Henry is currently Chair of the National Mining Museum of Scotland and was recently Chair of a major review of Scottish football. He was also a member of the Broadcasting Commission and Chair of the Scottish Prisons Commission, both set up by the Scottish Government. Since leaving main stream politics, Henry has lectured widely, particularly in the United States, and published several books.

This lunch is free and for Chairs of Trustees of independent museums and will take place in the morning of Thursday **23 June** from 11am – 1.30pm. If you would like more information and updates, please contact: sassy@aim-museums.co.uk