



Dear Friends,

We are aware that you are currently preparing to gather in South America for the purpose of sharing your research, and reflecting on the subject of *Caravan Archaeologies*. As hosts of this momentous scientific and cultural gathering, the municipality of Pica, Chile, enthusiastically awaits your arrival.

United under the concept of *Caravan Archaeologies: En Route to the Past, Present, and Future*, we are eager to welcome you in May, and to provide you with our best hospitality.

We hope that your visit is pleasant, productive, and unforgettable.

As mayor of the municipality of Pica, located in the Atacama Desert and admired as the only oasis in South America, I am proud to say that the air, earth, and water in Pica have given life to the Atacama Desert for centuries.

Among us, you will find significant archaeological discoveries reflecting our rich heritage, which we treasure with genuine pride. They are part of our identity, who we are, what we know, and what we have.

The team, which is organizing the assembly, has endeavored to create the ideal conditions that will enable you to work with dedication and devotion during your stay. In each of these people, as well as in each of the inhabitants of the community, is forever rooted the wonderful certainty of knowing that we are the descendants and inheritors of a far-reaching patrimony sheltered in trails, *apachetas*, *tambos*, corrals, villages, geoglyphs, and petroglyphs.

Friends from Chile and around the world, our oasis awaits your arrival, and our dream is to make Pica the home of your dreams.

Best wishes,

IVÁN INFANTE CHACÓN

ALCALDE

I. MUNICIPALIDAD DE PICA