

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FRIENDSHIP CITIES COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SISTER/FRIENDSHIP CITY RELATIONSHIP PROPOSAL
WITH THE CITY OF YANGZHOU, CHINA**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT His Worship, Mayor Mike Hurley, on behalf of Council, sends a letter to the Superior International Education & Immigration Consultancy Services Ltd. expressing appreciation for the City of Yangzhou's interest in establishing a sister/friendship city relationship, and advising that the City has several existing sister/friendship relationships in China.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The City of Burnaby maintains sister and friendship city relationships that meet the goals and objectives of Burnaby's International Relations and Friendship Cities Program.

The International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee, at its meeting held on 2020 February 13, received a correspondence from Mr. Donald An and Ms. Joanna Wu, Superior International Education & Immigration Consultancy Services Ltd., conveying interest of the City of Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, China, to establish a sister/friendship city relationship with Burnaby. Arising from discussion, the Committee adopted a motion recommending that His Worship, Mayor Mike Hurley, respond to the proposal.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

This report supports the following goals and sub-goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

- A Connected Community
 - Partnership –
Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments

To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors
From: International Relations & Friendship Cities Committee
Re: Response to Sister/Friendship City Relationship
Proposal with the City of Yangzhou, China
2020 February 24..... Page 2

- An Inclusive Community
 - Celebrate diversity –
Create more opportunities for the community to celebrate diversity
- A Dynamic Community
 - Economic opportunity –
Foster an environment that attracts new and supports existing jobs, businesses and industries

3.0 BACKGROUND

The City of Burnaby currently has nine sister/friendship city relationships with its counterparts in China.

Under the Provincial Government's 2007 Asia Pacific Initiative, the City was selected to receive one-time funding in support of friendship city initiatives with Asia-Pacific cities. The City matched Provincial funds and, over a two year period, confirmed Friendship Agreements with the following cities: Dongcheng District of Beijing, Dongli District of Tianjin, Changshu, Kunming, Dalian City, Tianjin City, Guiyang City, Chongqing City, and Zhongshan City. In 2011, the City signed a Sister City Agreement with Zhongshan City.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends His Worship, Mayor Mike Hurley, on behalf of Council, sends a letter to the Superior International Education & Immigration Consultancy Services Ltd. expressing appreciation for the City of Yangzhou's interest in establishing a sister/friendship city relationship, and advising that the City has several existing sister/friendship relationships in China.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Wang
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

Copied to: City Manager Director Corporate Services Executive Assistant to the Mayor
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