

CITY OF BURNABY

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

98/06/08

FROM: HIS WORSHIP, MAYOR D.P. DRUMMOND

SUBJECT: INVITATION FROM SISTER CITY, KUSHIRO, JAPAN

PURPOSE: To obtain Council approval for an official visit to Kushiro, Japan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council accept the invitation from Kushiro, Japan to visit during the Port Festival between the dates of 1998 July 30 through August 06.
2. **THAT** Council authorize the payment of costs associated with the visit to Kushiro return, including airfare, accommodation and transportation estimated to be \$24,000 from operating contingency.
3. **THAT** Council authorize amendments to the appropriate bylaws to provide for per diem expenses for Council and staff participating as delegates in the official visit in the amount of \$150.00 U.S. from operating contingency.
4. **THAT** Council authorize the payment of costs associated with interpretive services and the hosting of a reciprocal event in Kushiro on 1998 August 04 as an expression of appreciation from Burnaby to Kushiro at an estimated cost of \$10,000 from operating contingency.
5. **THAT** two members of staff be authorized to participate as working members of the delegation to coordinate all activities related to the visit to Kushiro

CC: - CITY MGR. - DIR. FINANCE - CITY SOL. - DEP. CITY MGR CORP.SVCS.

REPORT

During the past 32 years the City of Burnaby has enjoyed a Sister City relationship with the City of Kushiro, Japan. In the time this agreement has been in place the Councils of both cities have undertaken reciprocal visits in recognition of our ties of friendship and to promote goodwill between our two cities. Burnaby's last visit to Kushiro was held in 1990 and recognized the 25th Anniversary of this friendship. In the intervening 8 years Kushiro Councils have twice visited Burnaby, most notably during our 100th Birthday celebrations when more than 100 representatives, including entertainers from Kushiro, took part in the centennial festivities.

In keeping with protocol established over the past 32 years, the City of Kushiro have now sent an official invitation to Burnaby Council to participate in the events associated with their annual Port Festival.

Understanding that the past two visits have been from Kushiro to Burnaby it would be appropriate for Council, in the spirit of the Sister City relationship, to accept this gracious invitation. However, it is recommended that this trip be on a smaller scale than in 1990 and in particular involve fewer delegates traveling to Kushiro for a shorter period of time. In addition, the reciprocal event held in appreciation of our hosts will also involve fewer participants than the 25th Anniversary celebration. The recommended per diem rate is the same rate established for the 1990 visit.

In order to undertake the necessary preparations for the visit, I would ask Council's approval to accept the invitation from our Sister City, Kushiro, Japan.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas P. Drummond,
MAYOR