
TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL **DATE:** 2006 June 22

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: STAFF PARTICIPATION IN SISTER CITY VISIT

PURPOSE: To propose a level of staff involvement in the upcoming Sister City visit to Kushiro, Japan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

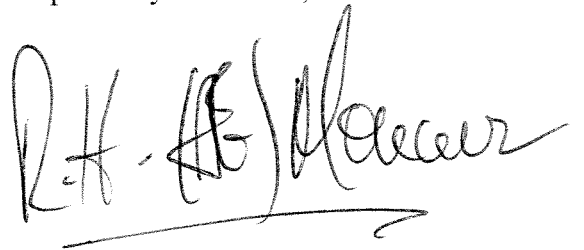
1. **THAT** five members of Management Committee be authorized to participate in the Sister City visit to Kushiro, Japan as delegates of Council, with costs charged to their respective department budgets.
2. **THAT** up to three City staff from the Clerks Department and Mayor's Office be authorized to participate as working members of the delegation to coordinate all activities related to the visit to Kushiro, with costs charged to the Sister City budget.

REPORT

During the past 40 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 and Staff of both cities have undertaken reciprocal visits in recognition of our ties of friendship and to promote good will between our two cities. Burnaby's last visit to Kushiro was held in 1998. In the intervening eight years Kushiro Councils and Kushiro City staff have twice visited Burnaby, most notably during our Year 2000 celebrations and again in 2005 when Burnaby undertook to recognize the work of the City of Kushiro in wetland development and saving the Tancho Crane from extinction through the development of a new and innovative breeding program.

In April 2006, Council accepted an invitation to visit the City of Kushiro in August of this year. The invitation from the Mayor of Kushiro was also extended to City Staff. It would be appropriate for Council to authorize staff participation in this visit so that they may continue to exchange ideas and build relationships with their counterparts in our Sister City,

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.H. Moncur". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Robert H. Moncur
City Manager

RHM :rf