
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS **DATE:** 2006 May 02
FROM: HIS WORSHIP, MAYOR D. R. CORRIGAN **A**
SUBJECT: SISTER CITY VISIT 2006

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Freeman Alan Emmott and Mrs. Emmott be invited to join the Burnaby delegation for the Sister City visit to Kushiro, Japan from 2006 August 01 to 09 as the guests of the City of Burnaby.

REPORT

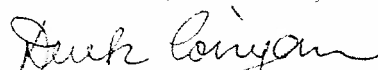
The first steps towards a formal sister-city relationship with the City of Kushiro were taken in 1964 when then Reeve Alan Emmott travelled to Japan as part of a delegation from Vancouver. While on this trip promoting tourism and trade between cities in Japan and those in the Lower Mainland, Reeve Emmott came into contact with the Mayor of Kushiro, Mayor Takeo Yamamoto.

Mayor Yamamoto expressed a keen interest in establishing a sister-city relationship with Burnaby and the like-minded Reeve Emmott extended an invitation to the Mayor to visit Burnaby in the next year. In 1965, Mayor Yamamoto arrived in Burnaby to participate in the opening ceremonies for Simon Fraser University and a few days later, on September 9, joined with Reeve Emmott in signing a formal agreement recognizing the Sister-city status of the two municipalities and stipulating that both cities would strive for meaningful industrial, economic, educational, and cultural exchanges.

In 2005 representatives from the City of Kushiro travelled to Burnaby to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship. At the conclusion of the visit Mayor Yoshitaka Itoh extended an invitation to Burnaby Council to make a return visit to Kushiro in 2006.

In recognition of former Reeve and Mayor Alan Emmott's foresight in establishing the relationship with Kushiro, I am pleased to recommend Council invite both he and his wife to join the delegation visiting Kushiro in August as guests of the City of Burnaby.

Respectfully submitted,


Derek R. Corrigan,
Mayor

CC: - City Manager