

TO: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL DATE: SEPT. 13, 2010

FROM: MAYOR DEREK R. CORRIGAN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FRIENDSHIP CITY
MISSION – CHINA AND KOREA

PURPOSE: To advise of further initiatives in support of the Province's B.C. Asia
Twinning Program

RECOMMENDTION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information purposes.

REPORT

Background

In early 2009 Council received a detailed report discussing the City of Burnaby's Sister Cities and Friendship Cities and advising that the City was selected to receive one-time funding of \$50,000 from the Provincial Government to promote further B.C. Asia twinning initiatives.

Twinning initiatives enhance the ability of our City to support the multi-faceted economic, educational, tourism and cultural opportunities presented through our friendly relationships in Japan, Taiwan, China and Korea.

We, as a city, are very proud of our strong and lengthy history associated with international relationships and more recently, have entered into friendly relationships with Taichung (Taiwan), Zhongshan, Changshu, Lin-an and Chong Wen (Peoples Republic of China).

Proposal

Through a planning strategy, accomplished in partnership with the Burnaby Board of Trade, the City developed a program of initiatives to further develop its twinning relationships. In support of these initiatives, and with Council's approval, I propose to travel with a delegation of City Councillors and senior staff to visit the cities of Shanghai, Changshu and Dalian, P.R. of China and Hwaseong, Korea for the purposes of promoting future business and friendly relationships.

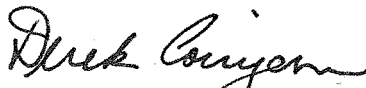
This proposed working visit has a productive itinerary encompassing a multitude of strategic meetings and official ceremonies in all four cities.

- Shanghai – Meetings have been arranged with Shanghai government officials to discuss Green Energy and Economic Development strategies. We have also accepted an invitation from the Mayor of the City of Richmond to attend a tour and reception during “Richmond Day” at the Canada Pavilion at the Shanghai World Expo.
- Changshu – On July 20th, 2009 the cities of Burnaby and Changshu became Friendship Cities. A short visit to Changshu, located just outside of Shanghai provides an opportunity to meet and renew our commitment of friendly cooperation between our two cities.
- Dalian – I have been invited to attend the Official Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for CanDa Green Industry Inc. Both Dalian and Burnaby local governments are working together to promote and welcome Canadian and Chinese joint venture businesses to the Canadian-Dalian Green Industrial Park in Dalian, Jinzhou District. This business park has already engaged in agreements to build a solar cell energy technology plant, an advanced waste treatment plant and a LED manufacturing plant.
- Hwaseong – over the past 3 years, Burnaby has hosted official government delegations from Hwaseong City, Korea who expressed interest in developing a friendly and cooperative relationship with us. These visits involved many productive business meetings including discussions with representatives from Simon Fraser University, B.C. Institute of Technology and the Burnaby Board of Education. In 2008, both cities jointly signed a Letter of Intent and subsequently a Memorandum of Understanding in March, 2010. The goal has been to progress towards a Friendship City agreement and this is the purpose of the first official visit to Hwaseong, Korea.

Funding

As mentioned previously, the provincial government initially provided the City of Burnaby with one-time funding of \$50,000.00 to promote B.C. Asia twinning initiatives. This grant covered the cost of the exchange mission to Taiwan and China in May 2009 and partially supported the mission to China in September 2009. Funds for this proposed mission to China and Korea are available in the 2010 Annual Budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Derek R. Corrigan
MAYOR

Copy: City Manager
Director Finance
Director Planning and Building
Director Engineering