

TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS

DATE: September 14, 2011

FROM: MAYOR DEREK R. CORRIGAN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL SISTER CITY VISITS
ZHONGSHAN, CHINA – September 18/19, 2011
HWASEONG, SOUTH KOREA – September 22/23/24, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council authorize costs associated with hosting an 8-member delegation from Zhongshan, China on September 18 and 19 and a 7-member delegation from Hwaseong, South Korea on September 22, 23 and 24, 2011.

REPORT

Zhongshan, China

I am pleased to advise that an 8-member delegation from Zhongshan City, China will be visiting the City of Burnaby on September 18 and 19, 2011. The purpose of the visit is to sign a Sister City Agreement between the two cities. The delegation will be led by Ms. Han, Zesheng, Vice Mayor of Zhongshan City and is comprised of representatives from the China Zhigong Party Zhongshan Committee, Zhongshan's Foreign and Overseas Chinese Affairs Bureau, Zhongshan Polytechnic Institute, and representation from the lighting and amusement industries.

This short visit will fulfill the obligation of the Memorandum of Agreement between the two cities (signed in Zhongshan City on May 26th, 2009) to work towards developing a more beneficial, meaningful, and long-lasting relationship.

Hwaseong, South Korea

The City of Burnaby entered into a Sister City relationship with Hwaseong, S. Korea during a visit to Hwaseong in September, 2010. On September 22, 2011, a 7-member delegation from Hwaseong will arrive in Burnaby for its first official visit.

The delegation will be led by Mayor Chai, In Seok and he will be accompanied by representatives from environment and industry, economic policy, and trade promotion. The visit will provide an opportunity to showcase the highlights of the City of Burnaby and discuss future opportunities in the areas of tourism, economic development and international education exchanges between the two cities

Cost Estimate

Both official visits are very short in duration due to tight time schedules. Hosting arrangements include hotel accommodations, gifts, an official celebration luncheon (Zhongshan) and an informal lunch and welcome dinner (Hwaseong), business meetings with SFU, a tour of EA Sport (Electronic Arts) and a presentation by the Burnaby Board of Trade and Tourism Burnaby. The combined cost of hosting both official visits is estimated at \$14,500.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek R. Corrigan
M A Y O R

Copy: City Manager
Director Finance
Director Planning & Building
Director Engineering
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
City Clerk