

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2017

Item 7, Report No. 17, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 16, 2017.

7 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS – 2017 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations, dated May 2, 2017:

Recommendation

The Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations recommends:

1. That this report be received for information purposes.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions, Vaughan Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan: Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage

Economic Impact

International Partnership programs and initiatives identified in this report will be funded through the approved 2017 Economic Development and Culture Services operating budget. The costs will be approximately \$14,500 (\$7,250 per celebration). Costs associated with each celebration include: Transportation, Passes for McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Refreshments, Audio/Video, Incidentals, Day One Lunch, Translation Services and Workshop.

Communications Plan

Celebrations associated with anniversary events will be advertised on the City's website and through social media.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the planned activities to celebrate the 2017 Anniversary Celebrations with two of Vaughan's Official existing social and cultural partnerships: Sora, Italy (25 years) and Baguio, Philippines (20 years).

Background - Analysis and Options

A letter of request was received from Sora, Italy and the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan (Attachment 1 & 2) indicating that a delegation from each City will be travelling to Vaughan in 2017 to commemorate the respective anniversary of our social and cultural relationship.

What is a Friendship/Twin/Sister City?

Sister Cities International, the nonprofit citizen diplomacy network that creates and strengthens partnerships around the world defines a sister city in this way, "When a community of any size or character joins with a community in another nation to learn more about the other and to develop friendly and meaningful exchanges, the two may propose a formal affiliation leading to official

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2017

Item 7, CW Report No. 17 – Page 2

designation as “sister cities.” The ideal affiliation involves a large number of citizens and organizations in both communities engaged in continuing projects of mutual interest. This interchange helps to further international understanding at all levels of the community on a continuing long-term basis. Within the program, cities and their citizens exchange people, ideas and culture in a variety of educational, municipal, professional, technical and youth projects.”

The term Sister City has generally been interchanged with the terms Friendship City and Twin City in North America. However, cities around the world do view these terms as independent of each other. Friendship City being the most casual and least developed relationship, Twin City signifies a relationship with some formality and organized actions while Sister City represents, as noted, a formal recognition with defined actions, objectives and goals.

Vaughan’s Existing Cultural and Social International Partnerships

The International Partnership Policy of the City of Vaughan has been in place since 2011 and it indicates two forms of International Partnerships: Friendship Agreements and Twin City Agreements. These partnerships were characterized by the type of collaboration that they proposed to cultivate: cultural and/or educational relations or economic (opportunity) development. The underlying premise of the policy was that the relationship was being initiated by the City.

Since 1992, the City of Vaughan has formally signed a number of “Friendship and Twin” agreements with the following communities:

- **Sora, Italy (1992)**
- Ramla, Israel (1993)
- Sanjo, Japan (1993)
- Yangzhou, China (1995)
- **Baguio, Philippines (1997)**
- Delia, Italy (1998)
- Lanciano, Italy (2002)

In the case of Vaughan’s “twin” and “friendship” cities that are social and cultural partnerships, there is usually strong community group support that maintains continuity of contact independent of the City. In the past, the activities of community groups have included reciprocal social/cultural visits (educational and personal exchanges); cultural celebrations; etc. In addition, the majority of activities have been directed towards Vaughan; that is, more often it entails delegations coming to Vaughan than vice versa.

2017 Anniversary Celebrations

This year marks milestone anniversary celebrations for two existing social and cultural partnerships:

1. Sora, Italy (25 years)
2. Baguio, Philippines (20 years)

Facts: Sora, Italy

- Population as of 2015 is 26,144
- Land Area 71 km²
- Mayor Roberto De Donatis
- Sora is a town of Lazio, in the province of Frosinone

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2017

Item 7, CW Report No. 17 – Page 3

Facts: Baguio, Philippines

- Population as of 2015 is 345,366
- Land Area 57.5 km²
- Mayor Mauricio Domogan
- Baguio is located in Benguet, Philippines

The Office of the Mayor recently received letters of request (Attachment 1 & 2) from Sora, Italy and the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan requesting festivity activities to celebrate the anniversary of our social and cultural partnership.

In preparation for these upcoming events, the following draft itinerary is proposed for two days that the delegation will be with Vaughan Staff.

- Workshop – Existing Social and International Partnerships
- McMichael Canadian Art Collection – Tour
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre – Tour
- Official Anniversary Celebration at Vaughan City Hall – Refreshments to be served and Certificate of Milestone Acknowledgement to be presented
- Coordinate Meetings – ie. School Boards for Student Exchanges, Areas of Interest

In addition, Staff will request that Artifacts of/from the partnership city be displayed in one of the display case at City Hall for a period of 30 days. This will bring awareness of the visiting City.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

This report is consistent with the Term of Council priority to support and promote arts, culture, heritage and sports in the community.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable

Conclusion

By commemorating these 2017 Anniversary Celebrations with Sora and Baguio, the City of Vaughan is recognizing the unique relationship that was created through social and international partnerships. A detailed Agenda will be distributed in advance.

Attachments

1. Letter dated March 28, 2017 from Mayor Roberto De Donatis, Commune Di Sora, Italy
2. Letter dated March 8, 2017 from Erlinda Insigne, President, Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan

Report prepared by:

Tim Simmonds
Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 2, 2017

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS – 2017 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Recommendation

The Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations recommends:

1. That this report be received for information purposes.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions, Vaughan Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan: Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage

Economic Impact

International Partnership programs and initiatives identified in this report will be funded through the approved 2017 Economic Development and Culture Services operating budget. The costs will be approximately \$14,500 (\$7,250 per celebration). Costs associated with each celebration include: Transportation, Passes for McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Refreshments, Audio/Video, Incidentals, Day One Lunch, Translation Services and Workshop.

Communications Plan

Celebrations associated with anniversary events will be advertised on the City's website and through social media.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the planned activities to celebrate the 2017 Anniversary Celebrations with two of Vaughan's Official existing social and cultural partnerships: Sora, Italy (25 years) and Baguio, Philippines (20 years).

Background - Analysis and Options

A letter of request was received from Sora, Italy and the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan (Attachment 1 & 2) indicating that a delegation from each City will be travelling to Vaughan in 2017 to commemorate the respective anniversary of our social and cultural relationship.

What is a Friendship/Twin/Sister City?

Sister Cities International, the nonprofit citizen diplomacy network that creates and strengthens partnerships around the world defines a sister city in this way, "When a community of any size or character joins with a community in another nation to learn more about the other and to develop friendly and meaningful exchanges, the two may propose a formal affiliation leading to official designation as "sister cities." The ideal affiliation involves a large number of citizens and organizations in both communities engaged in continuing projects of mutual interest. This interchange helps to further international understanding at all levels of the community on a continuing long-term basis. Within the program, cities and their citizens exchange people, ideas and culture in a variety of educational, municipal, professional, technical and youth projects."

The term Sister City has generally been interchanged with the terms Friendship City and Twin City in North America. However, cities around the world do view these terms as independent of each other. Friendship City being the most casual and least developed relationship, Twin City signifies a relationship with some formality and organized actions while Sister City represents, as noted, a formal recognition with defined actions, objectives and goals.

Vaughan's Existing Cultural and Social International Partnerships

The International Partnership Policy of the City of Vaughan has been in place since 2011 and it indicates two forms of International Partnerships: Friendship Agreements and Twin City Agreements. These partnerships were characterized by the type of collaboration that they proposed to cultivate: cultural and/or educational relations or economic (opportunity) development. The underlying premise of the policy was that the relationship was being initiated by the City.

Since 1992, the City of Vaughan has formally signed a number of "Friendship and Twin" agreements with the following communities:

- **Sora, Italy (1992)**
- Ramla, Israel (1993)
- Sanjo, Japan (1993)
- Yangzhou, China (1995)
- **Baguio, Philippines (1997)**
- Delia, Italy (1998)
- Lanciano, Italy (2002)

In the case of Vaughan's "twin" and "friendship" cities that are social and cultural partnerships, there is usually strong community group support that maintains continuity of contact independent of the City. In the past, the activities of community groups have included reciprocal social/cultural visits (educational and personal exchanges); cultural celebrations; etc. In addition, the majority of activities have been directed towards Vaughan; that is, more often it entails delegations coming to Vaughan than vice versa.

2017 Anniversary Celebrations

This year marks milestone anniversary celebrations for two existing social and cultural partnerships:

1. Sora, Italy (25 years)
2. Baguio, Philippines (20 years)

Facts: Sora, Italy

- Population as of 2015 is 26,144
- Land Area 71 km²
- Mayor Roberto De Donatis
- Sora is a town of Lazio, in the province of Frosinone

Facts: Baguio, Philippines

- Population as of 2015 is 345,366
- Land Area 57.5 km²
- Mayor Mauricio Domogan
- Baguio is located in Benguet, Philippines

The Office of the Mayor recently received letters of request (Attachment 1 & 2) from Sora, Italy and the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan requesting festivity activities to celebrate the anniversary of our social and cultural partnership.

In preparation for these upcoming events, the following draft itinerary is proposed for two days that the delegation will be with Vaughan Staff.

- Workshop – Existing Social and International Partnerships
- McMichael Canadian Art Collection – Tour
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre – Tour
- Official Anniversary Celebration at Vaughan City Hall – Refreshments to be served and Certificate of Milestone Acknowledgement to be presented
- Coordinate Meetings – ie. School Boards for Student Exchanges, Areas of Interest

In addition, Staff will request that Artifacts of/from the partnership city be displayed in one of the display case at City Hall for a period of 30 days. This will bring awareness of the visiting City.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

This report is consistent with the Term of Council priority to support and promote arts, culture, heritage and sports in the community.

Regional Implications

Not Applicable

Conclusion

By commemorating these 2017 Anniversary Celebrations with Sora and Baguio, the City of Vaughan is recognizing the unique relationship that was created through social and international partnerships. A detailed Agenda will be distributed in advance.

Attachments

1. Letter dated March 28, 2017 from Mayor Roberto De Donatis, Commune Di Sora, Italy
2. Letter dated March 8, 2017 from Erlinda Insigne, President, Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan

Report prepared by:

Tim Simmonds
Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Simmonds
Executive Director, Office of the City Manager



COMUNE DI SORA

PROVINCIA DI FROSINONE

Attachment 1

Corso Volsci, 111 - 03039 SORA (FR) - Tel. (0776) 8281 - 831032 - Fax 825056 - Cod. Fisc. 00217140607

Prot. n. 14818

28 MAR. 2017

GABINETTO DEL SINDACO

*Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1*

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua,

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Twinning Agreement between our respective Cities, we correspond that the City of Sora will be sending a delegation comprised of **Roberto De Donatis – Mayor, Antonio Lecce – Presidente del Consiglio Comunale, Maria Gabriella Paolacci - Assessore al Bilancio, Sandro Gemmiti – Assessore alle Politiche Culturali, Veronica Di Ruscio – Assessore ai Servizi Sociali, Serena Petricca – Consigliera Comunale, Massimiliano Bruni – Consigliere Comunale**, to visit the City of Vaughan from June 25th to July 2nd.

It is our understanding that June has been declared Italian Heritage Month which would complement our cultural and social relationship. We also look forward to participating in the July 1st celebration, especially as this year marks Canada's 150th anniversary.

During the course of our visit, we hope to participate in any official reception the City of Vaughan may host. We would especially look forward to a ceremony acknowledging the milestone anniversary of our twinning agreement.

As well, if possible, we would appreciate an opportunity to meet with some local clubs and organizations, such as the Sora Club, Ciociaro Club, Lazio Federation, or any other clubs and organizations that would be interested in meeting with our delegation.

A full outline of the activities for this period will be forwarded well in advance, for your review and comments.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sora, 27th march 2017

Il Sindaco

(Roberto De Donatis)



Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan

7894 Dufferin St., Vaughan, Ont., L4K 1R6, Tel.: (905) 881-4600, email: fcav@rogers.com, url: www.fcav.ca

March 9, 2017,

Honorable Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor, City of Vaughan and
Members of Council
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON., L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua and
Members of Council:

Re: 20th Anniversary Celebration of Baguio and Vaughan Friendship Agreement

During a recent trip to Baguio City, we met with Mayor Mauricio Domogan, members of council and senior staff, several businesses, and the Baguio City Chamber of Commerce. As part of our Friendship Agreement, we discussed the opportunity for a Baguio City delegation visiting Vaughan to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the agreement. This opportunity is especially significant as Mayor Mauricio Domogan was the sitting Mayor of Baguio City who signed the agreement with Mayor Lorna Jackson on October 30, 1997. As a background, Mayor Domogan served nine years as Mayor and later was the Congressman of the province. He is now serving his last term as Mayor and will be resigning in the next couple of years.

As part of our regular delegation exchange agreement, we would like to work with your staff to collaboratively develop a celebration itinerary for the 20th anniversary Friendship Agreement and plan for hosting the Baguio City delegates for four days. We are pleased that Mayor Domogan and his business delegates will join the Philippine Consul General, Philippine Chamber of Commerce of Toronto, and the Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan members to advance and strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation in economic and cultural relations.

Our Board of Directors and members have established the Anniversary Committee ready to work with your staff in making this event successful. Thanking you in advance for your continued support, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

President

.cc: Hon. Rosalita Prospero, Consul General, Philippine Consulate Toronto
Mr. Steve Pagao, President, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Toronto
Mr. Frank Miele, Honorary Member, FCAV
Anniversary Committee, FCAV