

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FRIENDSHIP CITIES COMMITTEE**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER CITY RELATIONS BETWEEN BURNABY  
& KUSHIRO, JAPAN**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT Council approve \$8,000 in financial support for the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Center to off-set costs related to celebrations and events planned for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sister City relationship between Burnaby and Kushiro.
2. THAT a copy of this report be forwarded to Roger Lemire, Executive Director, Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Center, 6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby BC V5E 4M7.

**REPORT**

Burnaby's sister city relationship with Kushiro, Japan was initiated by then Reeve Alan Emmott in 1965. At that time, delegates from the City of Kushiro visited Burnaby and an Exchange Affiliation Agreement was signed. In 1990, the Exchange Affiliation Agreement was renewed in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the relationship. Throughout the past half-century, numerous exchanges have taken place in the fields of art and culture, education and sport that have resulted in deep ties between Burnaby and Kushiro that continue to this day.

In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone, the City of Burnaby will be hosting a delegation from Kushiro, Japan from 2015 July 7-11. Activities are being planned to recognize 50 years of ongoing relations between the cities of Burnaby and Kushiro.

The Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Center will play an important role along with the City of Burnaby in hosting the delegation from Kushiro and arranging activities to showcase the ties between these two countries and cities. Further, the Nikkei Matsuri Festival, hosted by the Nikkei Center in September, will highlight key exchanges and a chronological story of the Sister City relationship that will be available to the public.

*To: His Worship, the Mayor and Councillors*  
*From: International Relations & Friendship Cities*  
*Committee*  
*Re:*  
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With Council's approval, funding is available through the International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee budget to assist with this financial support. The Committee agrees that this opportunity to assist with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration meets the goals and objectives of Burnaby's International Sister and Friendship Cities program.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor P. McDonell  
Chair

Councillor J. Wang  
Vice Chair

Councillor P. Calendino  
Member

Copied to: City Manager Deputy City Managers (2) Director Finance Mayor's Office
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