

March 18, 2019

Councillor James Wang
Chair, International Relations and Sister City Committee
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby BC, V5G 1M2

Dear Councillor Wang,

Please accept this letter in support of the proposal to explore a sister city relationship with the City of Padua, Italy.

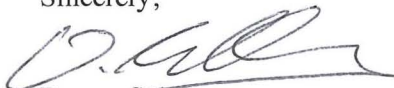
Simon Fraser University has a strong commitment to global engagement and a long history of collaboration with Italy across a broad range of activities including research collaboration, student exchanges, and field schools. This also includes formal agreements with a number of Italian institutions with two new partnerships being pursued currently.

While there is no formal agreement with the University of Padua, SFU and the University of Padua have established research connections most notably in psychology but also in biomedical engineering, molecular neurobiology and cognitive science. Additionally, Padua has strengths in areas complementary to SFU such as microbiology, genome science, earth science and physics. These complementarities could be explored as potential areas of new research collaborations.

The University of Padua is also well structured to support student mobility partnerships and SFU would be interested in exploring opportunities for student exchange or other forms of student mobility. The University of Padua is one of the oldest universities in Europe with a long tradition of student mobility across Europe and globally.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information in support of this proposal.

Sincerely,



Darren Schemmer
Executive Director, SFU International

Cc: Mayor Mike Hurley, City of Burnaby
Councillor Pietro Calendino, City of Burnaby
Dr. Joanne Curry, Simon Fraser University
Carol Zachs, Simon Fraser University