

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FRIENDSHIP CITIES COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: SISTER CITY PROPOSAL – PADUA, ITALY

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy be considered.
2. THAT His Worship, Mayor M. Hurley, on behalf of Council, send a letter to the City of Padua to initiate a dialogue regarding a Sister City relationship.

REPORT

The International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee, at its meeting held on 2019 March 21, received and adopted the attached report outlining a proposal for consideration of a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy.

The Committee supports a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy and arising from discussion, **AMENDED** the second recommendation in the report for His Worship, Mayor Hurley to send a letter to the City of Padua to initiate dialogue for such a proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Wang
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

Copied to: City Manager Executive Assistant to the Mayor Director Corporate Services
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TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS &
FRIENDSHIP CITIES COMMITTEE

DATE: 2019 March 19

FROM: EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR

FILE: 02410-20
Reference: IRFCC

SUBJECT: SISTER CITY PROPOSAL - PADUA, ITALY

PURPOSE: To consider a proposal for a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy be considered.
2. **THAT** His Worship, Mayor M. Hurley, on behalf of Council, send a letter to Ms. Antonia Ranieri, Gabinetto del Sindaco di Padova, in response to this proposal.

REPORT

The City of Burnaby develops and maintains Sister and Friendship City relationships to meet the goals and objectives of the International Relations & Friendship Cities Program.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee advises and assists Council in exploring opportunities for mutual economic and cultural benefits with other cities across the globe. Correspondence has been received from Ms. Antonia Ranieri, City of Padua, proposing a Sister City relationship with Burnaby; as well as letters of support from local Italian business and cultural groups (attached).

2.0 POLICY

This Sister City proposal aligns with the following goals and sub-goals of the City's Corporate Strategic Plan:

Goal

- A Connected Community
 - Partnership –
Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments

To: *International Relations & Friendship Cities
Committee*
From: *Executive Assistant to the Mayor*
Re: *Sister City Proposal - Padua, Italy*
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- An Inclusive Community
 - Celebrate diversity –
Create more opportunities for the community to celebrate diversity
- A Dynamic Community
 - Economic opportunity –
Foster an environment that attracts new and supports existing jobs,
businesses and industries

3.0 BACKGROUND

Burnaby was one of the first communities in Canada to recognize the economic and cultural opportunities of friendships cities and has supported a very active relationship with:

Sister Cities

- [Kushiro, Japan \(1965 September 9\)](#)
- [Mesa, Arizona \(1998 June 22\)](#)
- [Hwaseong, South Korea \(2010 September 28\)](#)
- [Zhongshan City, P.R. China \(2011 September 19\)](#)

Friendship Agreement

- [Dongcheng District \(formerly Chongwen District\) of Beijing, P.R. China \(2009 September 04\)](#)
- [Dongli District of Tianjin \(2009 September 8\)](#)
- [Kunming, Yunnan Province, P.R. China \(2011 May 30\)](#)
- Loughborough, England (1986 May 6)
- Taichung, Taiwan China (2009 May 22)
- Zhongshan City, P.R. China (2009 May 9)

Friendship Memorandum of Understanding

- [Lin-an City of Zhejiang, P.R. China \(2009 April 17\)](#)
- [Guiyang City, Guizhou Province, P.R. China \(2014 April 17\)](#)
- [Yubei District, Chongqing Municipality \(2014 July 23\)](#)

Twinning Agreement

- El Zapotal, El Salvador (1990 September 24)

Community Leaders Partnership Program Partner

- Gatineau, Quebec (1998 June 1)

Hi-Tech Friendly Exchange Agreement

- Dalian, Jinzhou District, P.R. China (2011 May 16)
- Taichung, Taiwan China (2007 June 8)

To: *International Relations & Friendship Cities
Committee*
From: *Executive Assistant to the Mayor*
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4.0 RECOMMENDATION

As an advisory body to Council on the IRFC program, the Committee recommends consideration of a Sister City relationship with Padua, Italy.



Elaine Wong
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR

Copied to: City Manager
Director Corporate Services

ATTACHMENT

gemellaggio Burnaby

Calendino, Attilio Pietro

Mon 2/4/2019 7:40 PM

Grazie Ilaria. Perfetto. Ora comincero' a muovermi. Probabilmente avro' bisogno di una lettera d'esortazione dal presidente diretta al Sindaco Mike Hurley ed alla INternational Relations & Sister City Committee, ma ti faro' sapere. Un Cordiale saluto, Pietro

Ilaria Baldan <ilaria@iccbc.com>

Mon 2/4/2019 10:48 AM

To:

Ranieri Antonia <raniera@comune.padova.it>;

Cc:

Calendino, Attilio Pietro;

You replied on 2/4/2019 7:40 PM.

Gentilissima Antonia,

I will translate in English my email from a few days ago.

Con questa email sono a metterla in contatto con il Consigliere Pietro Calendino del Comune di Burnaby (BC), che ci legge in copia.

Pietro: Le presento la dott.ssa Antonia, Ranieri, del Gabinetto del Sindaco di Padova (Ufficio Relazioni Esterne - Gemellaggi e Relazioni Internazionali). La dott.ssa Ranieri e' stata gentilissima nel ricevermi a Padova mentre ero in Veneto qualche settimana fa: ora vi metto in contatto affinche' possiate continuare e coordinare i passaggi successive relativi a un potenziale gemellaggio tra le citta'.

Come Camera di Commercio appoggiamo appieno questa iniziativa alla luce delle potenziali collaborazioni attivabili per il mondo della piccola e media impresa, e alla luce delle progettualita' che gia' abbiamo in atto nella Regione Veneto (es. Progetto INN Veneto <https://www.inn-veneto.it/> dedicato al settore dell'industria culturale, cinematografica e creative digitale).

I am connecting you with Mr. Pietro Calendino City Councillor in Burnaby (BC), hereto copied.

Pietro: please meet dott.ssa Antonia Ranieri, of the Gabinetto del Sindaco di Padova (Ufficio Relazioni Esterne - Gemellaggi e Relazioni Internazionali). Ms. Ranieri was very kind to meet me during my staying in Veneto.

The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada West is glad to support this twin cities initiative, as there are many projects that can be developed for small and medium size businesses in order to better connect them to Western Canada. Our Chamber is already active in Veneto Region with various projects, therefore we welcome any opportuniy that may be developed between Burnaby and Padua.

As I resident of Burnaby myself, I wish you all the best in the further steps of this initiative, and I remain at your disposal,

Best regards,

Un cordiale saluto,

Ilaria Baldan

Executive Director

The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada - West

703 -889 West Pender Street

Vancouver, BC V6C 3B2

Tel: 604 682 1410

ilaria@iccbc.com

www.iccbc.com



Mayor Mike Hurley
Councillor James Wang, Chair International Relation Committee
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC. V5G 1M2

March 11, 2019

Dear Sirs,

We have been informed that there is an opportunity for dialogue toward an eventual sister city relationship between the City of Burnaby and the City of Padova (Padua) in the Veneto Province of Italy.

This is most exciting news and as President of the Trevisani nel Mondo Society of BC I would be delighted to support this initiative and I am certain that the Italian-Canadian community of Burnaby would be proud to collaborate with you in making it a reality.

I come from the Treviso Region, not far from Padova and will take the liberty to provide you with a few quick facts demonstrating why Padova would be an excellent choice for engaging in a sister city relationship.

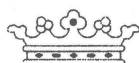
The Province of Veneto is one of the most highly developed and industrialized areas of Italy. Padua is at the centre of this important industrial core. The Padova Region, like the Treviso Region, has a thriving economy, with thousands of enterprises of every kind. These would provide many opportunities for business arrangements and possibly partnerships. Transportation in the area is second to none with motorways, 2 railway stations, a fluvial port and airport. Padova is one of 3 cities that form a Metropolitan HUB of 2.5 million people. The other 2 cities are Venice and Treviso, both less than 1 hour drive away or some 30 minutes by train. The median income of this HUB is fairly elevated, permitting a fairly high standard of living.

Padua is also the seat of the second oldest university in Italy and Europe. It opened in 1222 and has one of the most advanced schools of medicine in the country. This could offer opportunities for the Life Sciences programs both for SFU and BCIT. The region has also several highly recognized technical and trade schools.

I would like to encourage you and the city of Burnaby to pursue this sister city agreement and I look forward to the success of this exciting undertaking. Allow me to offer my best wishes and to venture to say that the Italian Canadian community will be very excited at the prospect of a Padova sister city with Burnaby.

Respectfully yours,

Settimo Perizzolo
President, Trevisani nel Mondo
trevisanivancouver@gmail.com
604-299-9525





EU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
in Canada West

Mayor Mike Hurley
Councillor James Wang, Chair International Relation Committee
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC. V5G 1M2

March 8, 2019

Dear Sirs,

I have been informed that the city of Padova ("Padua") in Italy has indicated interest in starting a dialogue toward an eventual sister city relationship with the City of Burnaby.

This is very exciting news for me as a resident of Burnaby and as President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada-West ("Italian Chamber of Commerce"). I am honoured to support my Mayor and Council in this initiative and I am certain that the Italian-Canadian community of Burnaby would be very proud to collaborate with you in making the sister city relationship a reality.

The Italian Chamber of Commerce has had professional and business relation with the Padova Chamber of Commerce for a long time and we shall be pleased to recommend to our counterpart the positive aspects of a linkage with Burnaby not only on an economic side, but also on a cultural, educational and tourism side. For your information, here are a few quick facts that may convince you on why Padova would be an excellent choice for engaging in a sister city relationship.

The Padova Region is a highly developed industrial zone in northeast Italy. There regional economy is vibrant and thriving, with thousands of large and small and medium-sized enterprises of every kind which would present many opportunities for business arrangements and possibly partnerships for Burnaby businesses. Transportation in the area is among the best with motorways, 2 railway stations, river ways and airport. Padova is one of 3 cities that form a Metropolitan HUB of 2.5 million people. The other 2 cities of this HUB, Venice and Treviso, are both within an hour's drive or some 30 minutes by train. The median income of this HUB is among the highest in Italy and the European Union allowing for a fairly high standard of living.

Both Canada and Italy are parties to the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement ("CETA") which took effect in September, 2017. Beyond removal of 98% of tariffs on goods traded between Canada and the EU, and of course, Italy as an EU member state, CETA also eliminates non-tariff barriers that impede the flow of capital, investment, intellectual property, technological know-how and personnel presenting opportunities for many entrepreneurs and businesses in Burnaby to penetrate the EU market. The EU is, collectively, the world's largest economy. It is also Canada's second largest trading partner. CETA facilitates access for Canadian businesses to a prosperous market of more than 440 million inhabitants. It will offer Burnaby businesses significant opportunities to diversify their export sales and services thus reducing their dependency on other markets that have recently exhibited volatility and uncertainty. A strong institutional, business and cultural relationship between Padova and Burnaby will enhance the ability of Burnaby's citizens and business community to penetrate the EU market through Padova as a gateway.

Padua is also known for having the second oldest university in Europe dating back to 1222. It has one of the most advanced schools of medicine in the country with the oldest and most famous medical teaching theatre in the world. This could offer opportunities for the Life Sciences programs both for SFU and BCIT. The university has over 30 faculties and specialty



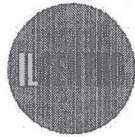
EU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
in Canada West

programs while the region has also several highly recognized technical and trade institutes. CETA facilitates academic exchanges and enables the freer movement of scholars and technicians in furtherance of academic and technical cooperation. For example, mutual recognition and accreditation of academic and technical credentials by Canada and EU member states will enhance research and development benefiting SFU, BCIT, Burnaby's Discovery Park and many other innovation driven endeavours.

I strongly encourage you and the city of Burnaby to pursue this sister city agreement and I look forward to the success of this exciting undertaking. Should this relationship come to fruition, Burnaby will be able to claim another first for Western Canada, therefore, I offer my best wishes.

Respectfully yours,

Celso Boscariol, QC
President, Italian Canadian Chamber of Commerce



ITALIAN
CULTURAL
CENTRE

Mayor Mike Hurley
Councilor James Wang, Chair International Relation Committee
City of Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC. V5G 1M2

March 8, 2019

Dear Sirs,

It has come to my attention that there is an opportunity for dialogue toward an eventual sister city relationship between the City of Burnaby and the City of Padova (Padua) in the Veneto Province of Italy.

This would be a most welcome initiative and as President of IL Centro - Italian Centre Cultural Society I am very confident that the Society and the whole Italian community in Burnaby would be pleased to support the initiative and to collaborate in whatever way we can. A few quick facts will show you why Padova would be an excellent choice for engaging in a sister city relationship.

The Province of Veneto is one of the most industrialized areas of Italy and Padua is at the centre of that. The Padova region has a thriving economy, with numerous enterprises of every kind. These would provide many opportunities way business exchanges and possibly partnerships. Transportation in the area is highly developed with motorways, 2 railway stations, a fluvial port and airport. Padova is one of 3 cities that form a Metropolitan HUB of 2.5 million people. The other 2 cities are Venice and Treviso. Both less than 1 hour drive away and some 30 minutes by train.

Padua is also the seat of the second oldest university in Italy and Europe and has one of the most advanced schools of medicine in the country. This could offer opportunities for the Life Sciences programs both for SFU and BCIT. The region has also several highly recognized technical and trade schools.

I like to encourage you and the city of Burnaby to pursue this sister city agreement and look forward to the success of this exciting undertaking. In taking the opportunity to offer my best wishes I can venture to say that the Italian Canadian community will be very excited to see this project become a reality.

Respectfully yours,



Michael Cuccione

President, IL Centro - Italian Centre Cultural Society

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.

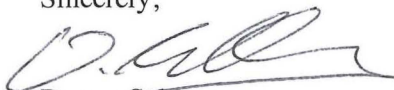
Simon Fraser University has a strong commitment to global engagement and a long history of collaboration with Italy across a broad range of activities including research collaboration, student exchanges, and field schools. This also includes formal agreements with a number of Italian institutions with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