

December 14, 2023

Mayor and Council
c/o Sister Cities
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Dear Mayor Hurley,

I hope this letter finds you well. It is with great pleasure that the Mesa Sister City Organization and the City of Mesa invite you, esteemed staff and council members of the City of Burnaby, to join us in Mesa, Arizona, this spring for a special celebration marking over 25 years of our Sister City relationship.

We were honored to be invited to commemorate this significant milestone in Burnaby, and now we are eager to extend the festivities to Mesa. Our City has undergone remarkable growth and development since the last visit from our Burnaby counterparts. We believe your visit will offer an excellent opportunity to share Mesa's progress and discuss areas of mutual interest. We would like to focus on three key areas:

- **Economic Development and Innovation:** Mesa has made significant strides in economic growth, welcoming major technology companies like Amazon, Meta and Google, while also fostering a supportive small business environment and attracting diverse industries.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure:** Mesa prioritizes transportation and infrastructure, and our modern light rail system has improved urban mobility. We are pioneers in sustainable transportation, recently introducing one of the first fully electric fire trucks in the United States.
- **Arts and Culture:** Mesa's rich heritage and vibrant arts scene, including our dynamic Asian District, highlight our dedication to celebrating creativity and fostering cultural exchange. The Media Immersion and eXperience (MIX) Center, a collaboration with Arizona State University, and Mesa Arts Center are hubs for innovation and sharing timeless cultural experiences. During your visit, we will showcase Mesa's cultural diversity, local cuisine, and commitment to the arts.

We look forward to exchanging ideas with Burnaby to enhance the quality of life for our residents through mutual learning and experiences. The tentative dates for this celebration are set for **April 10-14, however, we can be flexible**. We are optimistic that your presence will further strengthen the ties between our two cities.

Sincerely,



Mayor John Giles