

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS
FROM: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FRIENDSHIP CITIES
COMMITTEE
SUBJECT: **IRFCC RESPONSE TO INVITATION FROM GUIYANG FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OFFICE**
PURPOSE: To provide an update regarding the IRFCC response to the invitation
to attend Guizhou's International Sister Cities Exchange Conference
and "Friendship Day" Event from September 8 to 9, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report titled "IRFCC Response to Invitation from Guiyang Foreign
Affairs Office" dated October 7, 2024, be received for information.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee (IRFCC) is an advisory body on international relations and the Sister/Friendship City program and assists Council in exploring opportunities for mutual economic and cultural benefits with other cities across the globe.

Among the functions of the Committee are review and consideration of all matters pertaining to Sister/Friendship City relationships or requests for delegation visits to Burnaby and reporting and making recommendations to Council regarding appropriate actions to undertake based on the results of this review.

2.0 BACKGROUND

At its July 23, 2024, meeting, IRFCC received correspondence from Guiyang Foreign Affairs Office extending an invitation to attend Guizhou's International Sister Cities Exchange Conference and "Friendship Day" Event from September 8 to 9, 2024 (see Attachment 1).

IRFCC appreciated the invitation and noted that a delegation of Council is not available to attend the event at that time.

Due to time-sensitive nature of the invitation, Guiyang Foreign Affairs Office was informed of the decision on August 16, 2024 (see Attachment 2).

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

City of Burnaby and Guiyang City, Guizhou Province, P.R. China, have Friendship Memorandum of Understanding dated April 17, 2014.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,
International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Guizhou’s International Sister Cities Exchange Conference and “Friendship Day” Event Information

Attachment 2 – City of Burnaby Response to Guizhou’s International Sister Cities Exchange Conference and “Friendship Day” Event Information

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Anastassiya Denissenko, Administrative Officer 1, and reviewed by Blanka Zeinabova, Senior Manager, Legislative Services.