

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

**SUBJECT: KUSHIRO LANE PLAQUE**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** Hawthorne Lane be renamed Kushiro Lane; and

**THAT** the language for the plaque to be installed at Kushiro Lane, as outlined in section 3.1 in the report titled “Kushiro Sister City Lane Plaque”, dated April 7, 2025, of the Executive Committee of Council meeting, be approved.

**REPORT**

The Executive Committee of Council, at its meeting held on April 7, 2025, received the attached report seeking Council approval for the renaming of Hawthorne Lane and the wording and content for the commemorative plaque to be installed as part of the opening of the lane.

Arising from discussion, the Committee noted the length of the name and amended the recommendation to reflect the name of the lane as Kushiro Lane.

The amended recommendation is now before Council for final approval.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of  
Council,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal  
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino  
Vice Chair

**TO:** EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
**FROM:** DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
**SUBJECT:** **KUSHIRO SISTER CITY LANE PLAQUE**  
**PURPOSE:** To obtain approval for the renaming of Hawthorne Lane and the wording and content for the commemorative plaque to be installed as part of the opening of Kushiro Sister City Lane.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Hawthorne Lane be renamed Kushiro Sister City Lane; and

**THAT** the language for the plaque to be installed at Kushiro Sister City Lane, as outlined in section 3.1 in the report titled “Kushiro Sister City Lane Plaque”, dated April 7, 2025, be approved.

## **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

The City of Burnaby maintains Sister and Friendship City relationships that meet the goals and objectives of Burnaby’s International Relations and Friendship Cities program.

A Sister City visit supports the following City Policies: Climate Action Framework; Official Community Plan; Community Safety Plan; Transportation Plan; Economic Development Strategy; Environmental Sustainability Strategy; Housing and Homelessness Strategy.

Section 2.4 of the Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee of Council requires the Committee to review and recommend to Council the wording and content for commemorative plaques that are to be installed in parks, civic buildings and facilities.

In September 2024, Council adopted the Content and Design for Council Official Opening Plaques Policy. The proposed plaque included in this report aligns with that Policy.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

At the March 10, 2025 International Relations and Friendship Cities Committee (IRFCC) meeting, the following resolutions were recommended and were approved by Council at the March 25, 2025 Regular meeting:

***THAT*** the preferred renaming of Hawthorne Lane be Kushiro Sister City Lane.

***THAT the activities outlined in section 3.0 in the report titled “Celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> Year as a Sister City with Kushiro, Japan”, dated March 10, 2025, be approved.***

One of the activities outlined in section 3.0 of the report (Attachment 1) referenced above is the provision of a boulder and plaque to commemorate the official renaming of the lane.

### **3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

There is a walkway between the Nikkei Centre and the neighbouring Alan Emmott Centre parking lot. Although the walkway is on the private property of the Nikkei Centre, the City has a statutory right of way for it as utilities run beneath the path. The walkway is unofficially named Hawthorne Lane. In consultation with Nikkei Centre staff, the proposal is to officially rename the walkway Kushiro Sister City Lane to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burnaby’s Sister City relationship with Kushiro.

Also, as part of this initiative, the Nikkei Centre has proposed turning the area into a Japanese garden with the walkway going through the garden. A commemorative plaque will be created and installed and will include the below italicized content in both English and Japanese.**Kushiro Sister City Lane Commemorative Plaque:**

#### ***KUSHIRO SISTER CITY LANE***

*Kushiro Sister City Lane commemorates the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sister City relationship between Kushiro, Japan and the City of Burnaby.*

*Officially opened on July 13, 2025, by Mayor Mike Hurley and Kushiro Mayor Hidenori Tsuruma, Kushiro Sister City Lane and the adjacent garden symbolize 60 years of goodwill, friendship, and ongoing exchanges between the citizens of Burnaby and Kushiro.*

*Special appreciation to the gardeners: Ken Shinozaki, Nick Sueyoshi and Henry Wakabayashi.*

#### **Burnaby City Council**

Mayor	Mike Hurley	
Councillors	Pietro Calendino Sav Dhaliwal Alison Gu Joe Keithley	Richard T. Lee Maita Santiago Daniel Tetrault James Wang

#### **Kushiro City Council**

Mayor	Hidenori Tsuruma
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Councillors	Name 1	Name 5
	Name 2	Name 6
	Name 3	Name 7
	Name 4	Name 8

#### **4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Upon Council approval, City staff will work with Nikkei Centre staff on designing the commemorative plaque for the walkway. Notifications about the July 13<sup>th</sup> activities will be shared via Nikkei Centre channels and the City's "City Connect" publication, website, and social media.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Funding for International Friendship and Sister City initiatives have been budgeted in the Gaming Reserve.

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen Kassam, Deputy CAO/CFO

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 - March 25, 2025 IRFCC Report: Celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> Year as a Sister City with Kushiro, Japan

#### **REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was prepared by Jared Bowles, Marketing and Communications Specialist and reviewed by Marie Ishikawa, Director, Marketing and Communications and Juli Halliwell, General Manager Corporate Services.