

AGENDA
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

meeting held Wednesday, May 8, 2024

at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

Room 522b, 350 City Hall Square West

1. Call to Order

READING OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, which includes the Ojibwa, the Odawa, and the Potawatomie. The City of Windsor honours all First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land

2. Declaration of Conflict

3. Minutes

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held January 17, 2024 – *attached*.

4. Business Items

4.1 Arlington, Texas – Sister City/Friendship City Discussion

4.2 Invitation for the City of Windsor to send a delegation to attend the 2024 China International Friendship Cities Conference to be held in Kunming City, China from November 17 – 20, 2024

Background information is *attached*.

4.3 Request for a Sister City Agreement with the City of Kamianets-Podilskyl, Ukraine

Letter from the Mayor of Kamianets-Podilskiy, Ukraine – *attached*.

4.4 25th Anniversary of twinning with Lublin, Poland in 2025 - Delegation to go to Lublin to celebrate this event

4.5 Fujisawa Misono High School Girls

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant to provide an update

4.6 2023 Children’s Art Exhibition – Verbal Update

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant to provide an update.

4.7 Use of Concrete portals with a Video Screen which connects people in different cities in real time

Discussion

5. Communications

5.1 Motion M-75 debated in the House of Commons regarding Polish Heritage Month – ***attached.***

5.2 Article summarizing the Anniversary Jubilee (550) of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus – ***attached.***

5.3 Congratulatory letter from Mayor Drew Dilkens to Tsuneo Suzuki, Mayor of the City of Fujisawa, Japan on his recent re-election -***attached.***

5.4 Congratulatory letter from Mayor Drew Dilkens to Mr. Krzystof Zuk, Mayor of Lublin, Poland on his recent re-election – ***attached.***

5.5 Save the Date – 27th Annual Polish-Canadian Society Business Dinner, November 15, 2024 - ***attached.***

5.6 Municipality Twinning Programs – E-mail and letter from Omer Korkmaz wishing to build a relationship with the City of Windsor and other countries for business purposes – ***attached.***

5.7 Twin Cities with the Corporation of the City of **Windsor** – ***attached.***

6. New Business

7. Date of Next Meeting

To be determined.

8. Adjournment

International Relations Committee

Meeting held January 17, 2024

A meeting of the International Relations Committee is held this day commencing at 3:30 o'clock p.m. in Room 140, 350 City Hall Square West, there being present the following members:

Councillor Angelo Marignani, Chair
Councillor Renaldo Agostino
Councillor Fred Francis
Councillor Ed Sleiman
Lubna Barakat
Saiful Bhuiyan (arrives at 3:34 p.m.)
L.T. Zhao

Regrets received from:

Jerry Barycki
Ronnie Haidar
William Ma

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:30 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule A attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Declaration of Conflict

None disclosed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Councillor Fred Francis, seconded by Councillor Ed Sleiman,
That the minutes of the International Relations Committee of its meeting held
July 31, 2023 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. Establishment of a Friendship City Program/Draft Policy

Sandra Gebauer remarks that at the previous meeting held July 31, 2023 Councillor Fred Francis requested that a draft policy/framework for the establishment of a Friendship City Program be brought back. She advises that several municipalities outlined in the report currently have Friendship City relationships. Of note, is the City of Vancouver who in 2022 established their Friendship City Program which is less formal than their Sister City Program and whose purpose is to facilitate city to city partnerships that strengthen cultural and business relationships internationally and are directed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The terms for the Friendship City MOU's are for five years with an option to renew for one additional five-year term. Councillor Francis requests that the Draft Policy be provided to the Development and Heritage Standing Committee and City Council for approval.

Councillor Fred Francis indicates that the Sister city relationship is people to people and not government to government. In terms of the Friendship City, it could either be people to people or government to government in the hopes of building a relationship that could one day be people to people.

Sandra Gebauer refers to Item 6.1.3 which states "*Friendship City relationships should be maintained for a minimum 5-year term, with the option to extend for an additional 5-year term.*" Councillor Fred Francis agrees to extend with five year increments (including a Memorandum of Agreement) and adds at some point, the term is either extended, ended or evolves to a Sister city.

Sandra Gebauer refers to Item 6.1 in the Draft Policy which states "*Request for Friendship City Relationships **should be community driven....***." She suggests the wording in the foregoing be amended to state that the Friendship City Relationships should either be community driven or by local municipal governments.

Councillor Fred Francis adds that any Friendship City MOU agreement be approved by City Council.

Moved by Councillor Fred Francis, seconded by Councilor Ed Sleiman,
That the Draft Twin City/Friendship City Policy for the City of Windsor, attached as *Appendix A* **BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**
Carried.

4.3 Request from the City of Gunsan, South Korea for a delegation to visit the City of Windsor from October 16-18, 2023

Sandra Gebauer reports that the delegation from the City of Gunsan, South Korea cancelled the visit scheduled for October 16-18, 2023. They have indicated that they would like to reschedule their visit to Windsor sometime in 2024.

4.2 Request for a Sister City Agreement with the City of Arlington, Texas – Verbal Update

Sandra Gebauer refers to the “Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Arlington, Texas USA and the City of Windsor, Ontario Canada” prepared by the City of Arlington and previously provided to the Committee. She notes that this MOU suffices as the City of Arlington’s formal request for a Sister City relationship.

Councillor Fred Francis remarks that the City of Arlington can be Windsor’s first Friendship City. Following approval of the Twin City/Friendship City Policy by City Council, the City of Windsor will reach out to the City of Arlington with the Policy.

Moved by Saiful Bhuiyan, seconded by Councillor Ed Sleiman,
That the update regarding the request for a Sister City Agreement with the City of Arlington, Texas **BE RECEIVED.**
Carried.

Sandra Gebauer indicates that she will reach out to the City of Arlington to advise that the City of Windsor has been working on a Friendship City Policy that will require approval by City Council.

4.4 2023 Children’s Art Exhibition – Verbal Update

Sandra Gebauer states that the 2023 Exhibition took place at the Aquatic Centre and Devonshire Mall and received great feedback with the display at Devonshire Mall. Councillor Fred Francis adds that if the event will once again be at Devonshire Mall, that some upgrades be undertaken, i.e. cases and stands for the art.

Sandra Gebauer remarks that over 100 local entries were received. Historically, 15 to 20 entries are requested from the Twin Cities.

The following comments and suggestions are provided by the Committee:

- To once again host the Children’s Art Exhibition at Devonshire Mall with improved display quality.
- Will work with Devonshire Mall to determine what dates are available to host the event.
- Suggestion to have a display at Walkerville High School (which features an Arts Program).
- Collaboration with the school boards and the Art Gallery of Windsor.
- Show the display at the Children’s Safety Village.

- Work with the Recreation Department to enhance the exhibition at Devonshire Mall and to purchase displays, boards, shelving that can also be cost-shared and utilized by Recreation and the IRC.

Sandra Gebauer remarks that she will contact Michelle Staadegaard, Manager, Culture and Events to discuss the possibility of partnering to source some display boards or cases that can be used for the 2024 Children's Art Exhibition at Devonshire Mall and will report back at the next meeting.

Moved by Councillor Ed Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Fred Francis,
That the verbal update regarding the 2023 Children's Art Exhibition **BE RECEIVED.**
Carried.

5. Confirm and Ratify E-mail Polls

- 5.1 That the following E-mail Poll sent on September 26, 2023 regarding an expenditure in the amount of \$560 for four tickets for the 26th Annual Polish-Canadian Business Society Dinner **BE CONFIRMED AND RATIFIED:**

Moved by Saiful Bhuiyan, seconded by Councillor Fred Francis,
That the International Relations Committee AUTHORIZE an expenditure in the upset amount of \$560 for the purchase of four (4) tickets, (1 ticket for Mayor Dilkens) for the 26th Annual Polish-Canadian Business Society Dinner to be held on November 17, 2023 at the Dom Polski Hall, located at 1275 Langlois Avenue.
Carried.

- 5.2 That the following E-mail Poll sent on November 20, 2023 regarding costs associated with sending the Children's Art Exhibition to Gunsan, South Korea **BE CONFIRMED AND RATIFIED:**

Moved by L. T. Zhao, seconded by Councillor Fred Francis,
That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$150 for costs associated with sending the Children's Art Exhibition to Gunsan, South Korea.
Carried.

- 5.3 That the following E-mail Poll sent on January 4, 2024 regarding an expenditure in the upset amount of \$200 for costs associated with sending gifts to the male and female winners of the Shonan, Fujisawa Citizens Marathon Event **BE CONFIRMED AND RATIFIED:**

Moved by Councillor Fred Francis, seconded by Lubna Barakat,
That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$200 for costs associated with sending gifts to the male and female Winners of the Shonan, Fujisawa Citizens Marathon Event.
Carried.

6. Communications

Moved by Councillor Renaldo Agostino, seconded by Councillor Ed Sleiman,
That the following Communications **BE RECEIVED:**

- 6.1 Letter from Mayor Peter Kurz, City of Mannheim.
- 6.2 Letter of Invitation from Mayor Kang, Gunsan, South Korea.
- 6.3 Welcome Letter to Mannheim Mayor Specht from Mayor Dilkens.
- 6.4 Letter of farewell to Mayor Kurz on behalf of Mayor Dilkens.
- 6.5 Letter from the Mayor of Gunsan, South Korea to Mayor Dilkens.
- 6.6 Letter to Mayor Dilkens from the City of Mannheim.
- 6.7 Invitation from Changchun, China for the City of Windsor to participate in the 2023 conference on promoting low carbon.
- 6.8 Photos of the Gunsan, South Korea Citizen's Day.
- 6.9 CAIF Statement on Peace 2023.
- 6.10 Young Polonia Leadership Summit.

Carried.

Councillor Renaldo Agostino advises that some cities are utilizing concrete portals with a video screen that can connect people in different cities in real time. He indicates that the cost of the portal is approximately \$100,000 and if approved, he will acquire sponsors. He asks that this matter be discussed at the next meeting of the IRC Committee.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 4:00 o'clock p.m.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

BETWEEN THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, TEXAS, USA AND THE CITY OF WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into on this [Date] by and between:

The City of Arlington, a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the State of Texas, United States, hereinafter referred to as "Arlington."

And

The City of Windsor, a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada, hereinafter referred to as "Windsor."

WHEREAS, Arlington and Windsor recognize the mutual benefits of a Sister City relationship and seek to establish a formal partnership to promote cooperation, cultural exchange, educational opportunities and economic development between the two cities;

NOW, THEREFORE, Arlington and Windsor agree as follows:

1. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Sister City relationship is to enhance friendship, goodwill, and understanding between the citizens of Arlington and Windsor. The objectives of this partnership shall include, but not be limited to: a. Encouraging cultural exchanges, including arts, entertainment, and sports to foster mutual understanding. b. Identifying educational opportunities. c. Promoting economic development, trade, and investment opportunities. d. Sharing best practices in municipal governance and administration. d. Collaborating on joint projects, events, and activities to benefit both cities. e. Promoting environmental sustainability and responsible urban development.

2. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

To facilitate the achievement of the objectives outlined in this MOU, Arlington and Windsor shall establish a Sister City Committee composed of representatives from both cities. The committee will meet regularly to discuss and plan cooperative activities, projects, and initiatives.

3. COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

Arlington and Windsor shall endeavor to collaborate on various activities, including but not limited to: a. Cultural exchange programs, such as student exchanges, art exhibitions, and cultural festivals. b. Educational initiatives, including joint research projects, academic exchanges, and scholarships. c. Economic development efforts, trade missions, and business partnerships. d. Environmental projects, sharing of best practices, and sustainability initiatives. e. Mutual support in times of need, such as during disasters or emergencies.

4. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Each city shall be responsible for funding its own activities and initiatives related to the Sister City relationship, subject to the availability of their respective budgets. Joint projects or initiatives may be funded collaboratively as agreed upon by both parties.

5. DURATION OF MOU

This MOU shall be in effect as of (DATE) and will be reviewed every five years by each city to determine goals and achievements.

TERMINATION

Either party may terminate this MOU with written notice to the other party, subject to a reasonable notice period as agreed upon by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of Arlington and Windsor have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the date first above written.

City of Arlington, Texas: City of Windsor, Ontario:

[Signature] [Signature]

[Printed Name] [Printed Name] [Title] [Title] [Date] [Date]

[Seal of Arlington] [Seal of Windsor]

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR
POLICY**

Service Area:		Policy No.:	
Department:		Approval Date:	
Division:		Approved By:	
		Effective Date:	
Subject:	Twin City/Friendship City Policy	Procedure Ref.:	
Review Date:		Pages:	Replaces:
Prepared By:			Date:

1. POLICY

1.1. A policy outlining the criteria necessary for entering into international friendship and twin city relationships with the City of Windsor.

2. PURPOSE

2.1. This Policy outlines the necessary steps and processes associated in the creation or establishment of entering into a new friendship and/or twin city agreement with another international municipality.

3. SCOPE

3.1. This policy will apply to all proposed friendship and twin city requests made from within the Windsor community or received by the Mayor of the City of Windsor from any international city, municipality or district.

4. DEFINITIONS

4.1. **Twin City** refers to a form of legal agreement between two geographically and politically distinct localities for the purpose of promoting cultural and commercial tie. For the purposes of this policy, Twin Cities are defined by a formal request brought to and approved by Council upon recommendation of the International Relations Committee.

4.2. **Friendship City** refers to a less formal agreement between localities. For the purposes of his report, Friendship Cities are characterized by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Mayor's Offices. It is to be used as a first stage in the 'Twinning' relationship and if successful may lead to a formal Twin-City Agreement

5. RESPONSIBILITY

5.1. City Council will be responsible for:

- 5.1.1. Reviewing and approving new twin city agreements or partnerships.
- 5.2.** The Mayor's Office will be responsible for:
 - 5.2.1. Communicating City Council's resolution regarding a proposed new twin city relationship.
 - 5.2.2. Reviewing recommendations from the International Relations Committee regarding Friendship City requests and approving, if desired, the relationship through a Memorandum of Agreement.
- 5.3.** The Office of the City Clerk will be responsible for:
 - 5.3.1. The collection and cataloguing of official records, letters, agreements or charters when entering into a Friendship City or Twinning Agreement with the City of Windsor, including future correspondence between cities.
- 5.4.** The International Relations Committee (IRC) will be responsible for:
 - 5.4.1. Exploring and investigating new friendship and twin city relationships.
 - 5.4.2. Submitting a recommendation to the Mayor and Council regarding proposed friendship or twinning requests after a formal request has passed through the Mayor's Office and/or a formal investigation has been completed by the committee. Recommendations to City Council will follow normal protocols in the governance model process.
 - 5.4.3. Reviewing this policy and any associated procedures and forms every five years.

6. GOVERNING RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 6.1.** Request for Friendship City Relationships should be community driven, supported by a formal organized cultural/ethnic association and must demonstrate that a sustainable relationship can be maintained.
 - 6.1.1. Legitimate and active organizational structure should exist in the related ethnic community to support friendship- based activities (i.e. hosting visiting delegations, providing translation services, conducting meetings/tours/receptions with their business community).
 - 6.1.2. The proposed friendship city should demonstrate certain identifiable similarities or mutual interests with potential for reciprocal cultural, educational and economic benefits.
 - 6.1.3. Friendship City relationships should be maintained for a minimum 5-year term, with the option to extend for an additional 5-year term.
 - 6.1.4. Friendship City relationships should be evaluated at the end of each defined term to determine if the relationship has seen any benefit and/or measurable results that the City of Windsor and the partner organization expect as a result of the Partnership.
 - 6.1.5. If Friendship City partnerships receive a successful evaluation, the option to formalize the relationship into a twinning relationship may be exercised as per section 6.2 of this policy
- 6.2.** Request for twinning's should also be community driven, supported by a formal organized cultural/ethnic association and must demonstrate that a sustainable relationship can be maintained.

- 6.2.1. As with Friendship Cities, legitimate and active organizational structure should exist in the related ethnic community to support twinning activities and The proposed twin city should demonstrate certain identifiable similarities or mutual interests with potential for reciprocal cultural, educational and economic benefits.
- 6.2.2. Details of a twinning proposal must be submitted in writing to the Mayor of Windsor, outlining a long-term plan and the community's responsibility for sustaining ongoing activities.
- 6.2.3. If recommended by the IRC and approved by Council, a formal letter of interest is to be forwarded to the Mayor of the proposed twin city.
- 6.2.4. If the proposed twin city approves Windsor's proposal, a formal signing protocol will be arranged.
- 6.2.5. The twinning charter can be dissolved upon the mutual agreement between the twin cities.
- 6.2.6. If a twinning request is received from another city outside of the friendship city realm, the request will be reviewed by the IRC and one or more of the following actions may occur;
 - 6.2.6.1. Investigate and forward a recommendation to the Mayor's Office for decision on Twinning Agreement.
 - 6.2.6.2. Review the request and offer a recommendation to the Friendship City program.

7. RECORDS, FORMS AND ATTACHMENTS

- 7.1. Records are the responsibility of The Office of the City Clerk and will be kept in accordance with the Records Retention Bylaw #21-2013 as amended from time to time.

From: [Gebauer, Sandra](#)
To: [Kadour, Karen](#)
Subject: FW: Invitation for 2024 China International Friendship Cities Conference
Date: May 1, 2024 10:50:43 AM
Attachments: [2018 China International Friendship Cities Conference was successfully held in Wuhan.png](#)

From: 长春市外办美大处 <ccwbmdc88776736@163.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Gebauer, Sandra <sgebauer@citywindsor.ca>
Subject: Invitation for 2024 China International Friendship Cities Conference

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sandra,

It's been a while since we last spoke, and I genuinely hope that everything has been going well for you recently!

The purpose of writing this email is to kindly invite Windsor City to send a delegation to attend the 2024 China International Friendship Cities Conference, which will be held in Kunming City, Yunnan Province, China from November 17th to 20th this year. The Conference will cover the expenses of your city delegation during their participation in Kunming.

The purpose of this conference is to enhance the friendship between Chinese and foreign sister cities and promote the cause of citizen local friendship. The most recent event was held in Wuhan in 2018. This report provides an overview of that time:

<https://www.cpaffc.org.cn/index/news/detail/id/6466/lang/1.html>

If the city of Windsor decides to attend this meeting, kindly provide me with the registration information of the group members and the cooperation projects that we intend to sign up in the event next week. This will enable us to compile a summary for the organizing committee.

Thank you for your assistance!

Yours sincerely,

John

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长春市人民政府外事办公室美大处

American&Oceanian Division

Foreign Affairs Office

Changchun Municipal People's Government

联系电话: 0086-431-88775327

Tel.&Fax: 0086-431-88775327

工作邮箱: ccwbmdc88776736@163.com

E-mail: ccwbmdc88776736@163.com

地址: 吉林省长春市南关区南环城路3066号

Address: 3066 South Ring Road, Nanguan District, Changchun City, Jilin Province, P.R.China.

 首页 >> CPAFFC News >> 2018 China Internati...

2018 China International Friendship Cities Conference was successfully held in Wuhan

时间: 2018-11-16 供稿单位: China International Friendship Cities Association 打印

字号: 大 中 小

Sponsored by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), the China International Friendship Cities Association (CIFCA), and the People's Government of Wuhan, undertaken by the Foreign Affairs Office of the Wuhan Municipal People's Government, the "2018 China International Friendship Cities Conference", was held in Wuhan from November 15th to 16th, 2018.



Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan attended the opening ceremony and delivered a keynote speech. Vice President of Uganda Edward Ssekandi, former Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama and more than 300 foreign representatives from organizations from 125 provinces and cities of more than 60 countries, and 35 associations of municipalities, Mr. Jiang Chaoliang, secretary of the Hubei Provincial CPC Committee, Mr. Wang Xiaodong, governor of Hubei Province, Madame Li Xiaolin, president of the CPAFFC, Mr. Ma Guoqiang, secretary of the Wuhan Municipal CPC Committee, Mr. Zhou Xianwang, mayor of Wuhan, together with more than 300 Chinese delegates from 115 cities and districts in 31 provinces in China, totaling more than 700 people, attended the Conference.



At the opening ceremony, Vice President Ssekandi, former Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, and President-designate of the Sister Cities International, USA, Carlo Robertson Lupezi, fully endorsed the Friendship Cities Conference, as a way to promote mutual understanding between countries and regions, also as an effective platform for strengthening local cooperation among countries.

Governor Wang Xiaodong and Secretary Ma Guoqiang also respectively gave a brief introduction to the situation in Hubei Province and Wuhan City, and expressed their strong desire to strengthen cooperation with the local governments of participating countries.

In the opening speech, President Li Xiaolin pointed out that since its founding in 1954, the CPAFFC has been making friends on the international stage on behalf of the Chinese people. We have established friendly and cooperative relations with 157 countries and more than 500 friendly organizations in the world. Entrusted by the Chinese Government, we have initiated the establishment of the China International Friendship Cities Association, which is responsible for the coordination and management of the establishment and development of friendship cities between China and other countries in the world.

At present, China has established 2566 pairs of friendship city relations with 136 countries on five continents. While encouraging Chinese and foreign regions and cities to make friends, we also actively build platforms for Chinese and foreign local government exchanges.

Madame Li stressed that as China's overall national strength continues to rise and China is gradually moving toward the center of the world stage, the willingness to strengthen exchanges and cooperation between Chinese and foreign regions and cities is constantly increasing. We are facing both new opportunities and new challenges. CPAFFC will continue to work with colleagues and friends from all over the world to build a beautiful home planet.

CPAFFC Vice President Xie Yuan presided over the opening ceremony and made concluding speech at the closing ceremony. Vice President Hu Sishe attended the Top Talk. and Vice President Lin Yi delivered a speech at the welcome dinner banquet.

Focusing on the practical needs of building a community with a shared future for mankind and the development of local governments, the conference will jointly explore the issues of urban modernization, internationalization, and ecology around the theme of "Sharing Development Opportunities and Deepening Win-win Cooperation." Share the advanced experience of friendship cities to promote common prosperity and development.

During the conference, a signing ceremony was held for the newly built friendship cities. The "Wuhan Initiative" was issued. and a commendation ceremony was held for the outstanding contributions made by the Chinese and foreign friendship cities in 2016-2017. The second China-Latin America Forum on Local Government Cooperation was also held at the same time.

The China International Friendship Cities Conference, which has been held every two years since 2008, has been held successively in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Guangzhou and Chongqing. This is the 6th conference, and the next session will be held in Kunming.



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MAYOR OF THE CITY OF KAMIANETS-PODILSKYI

To the mayor of Windsor, Canada

16.02.2024 N 1/02-24-332

Andrew Dilkens

Dear Andrew!

I am writing to you from the picturesque and ancient city of Kamianets-Podilskyi. It is a historic city with a strong artistic, scientific, and educational potential. It is the center not only of Ukraine but also of Central and Eastern Europe.

In addition, Kamianets-Podilskyi is a modern industrial center of Khmelnytskyi region, as well as a center of tourism and recreation. The city's economy is represented by the industrial sector and a number of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the city community of Kamianets-Podilskyi has become a refuge for thousands of people fleeing the war. According to the official data of the city council, as of August 1, 2024, the number of registered IDPs in Kamianets-Podilskyi is 21,808.

We are very interested in cooperating with your wonderful city. We were impressed by its picturesque lakes, developed industry, tourism, higher education institutions, winemaking and festivals, and our city is developing and succeeding in the same areas.

Therefore, guided by the idea of promoting international understanding, developing humanitarian ties and supporting cultural exchange between communities, we would like to propose to you to sign a sister city agreement between our cities.

Both sides can create opportunities for mutual acquaintance, exchange of experience and implementation of joint initiatives and projects between the communities of both cities in various fields.

We are ready to consider any proposals from you as well, or other ways of cooperation than twinning.

I am confident that the establishment of international contacts between our cities will be an important event in the cultural and economic life of our cities, and our cooperation will be mutually beneficial and interesting and will serve as a basis for further fruitful contacts.

I look forward to hearing from you and hoping for cooperation!

Best regards,

Mykhailo Positko

Mayor of Kamianets-Podilskyi, Ukraine



Kamianets-Podilskyi

NATURE

The Podilski Tovtry National Nature Park is part of a reservoir formed in 1981 as a result of the flooding of the area by the Dnister waters. It is a popular tourist destination.

WINE PRODUCTION

Zelenytsia Family Winery have been growing grapes for 6 years. They have own laboratory where they produce all-natural craft wine. They grow grapes in the heart of the Podilski Tovtry.

EDUCATION

Kamianets-Podilskyi Ivan Ohienko National University is a higher education institution of the IV accreditation level. The history of the university dates back to 1918.

FESTIVAL

Brookivka is an international film festival founded in 2017 by filmmaker Andriy Zayets in Kamianets-Podilskyi.



INDUSTRY

- Kamianets-Podilskyi plant Elektron ALC Manufacture of medical, commercial and agricultural equipment, metal structures.
- Medical equipment factory "KAMMED". Production and wholesale of medical equipment.
- Bador. Manufacturing of semi-trailers and bodies, plasma cutting, accident recovery, painting, axle repair.
- Modul-Ukraine LLC. Production and painting of steel, application of protective coatings.
- Cable plant in Kamianets-Podilsky - PRETTL. Kamianets-Podilsky Avtoagregat (KPAA), automotive unit plant; produces components, assemblies and individual parts for trucks, buses and trolleybuses.



01.02.2024, Motion M-75 debated in the House of Commons

On February 1, 2024, Private Members' Business on Polish Heritage Month in Canada, Motion M-75, was debated by MPs in the House of Commons. It was a pleasure to hear some impressive opinions about the major contribution of Canadians of Polish heritage, who built a better Canada.



07.02.2024, Motion M-75 Voted in the House of Commons



On February 7, 2024, the Canadian Parliament approved Motion M-75, establishing May as Polish Heritage Month and May 3rd as Polish Constitution Day in Canada. YEAS 328, NAYS 0. A great success for our current and future generations.





07.02. 2024. “Thank you” reception for Motion M-75, Polish Heritage Month in Canada, at the Polish Embassy in Ottawa.



Main contributors Motion M-75, from left: John Tomczak, President, Canadian Polish Congress, Peter Fonseca, Member of Parliament, Mississauga East-Cooksville and H.E. Witold Dzielski, Ambassador of Poland.



The Embassy of Poland in Ottawa



GLORIA POLONIA!

Thank you to all involved for taking Motion M-75 to a successful conclusion.

The leading parliamentarian team, from left: Yvan Baker, Irek Kusmierczyk, Peter Fonseca, Hon. Arif Virani and James Maloney.

From: [Gebauer, Sandra](#)
To: [Kadour, Karen](#)
Subject: FW: Article summarizing the Anniversary Jubilee (550) of the Birth of Nicolaus Copernicus 2023 in Urania
Date: May 1, 2024 10:52:09 AM
Attachments: [2024 01 27 NC-Urania Article \(E\) \(4\).pdf](#)

From: Jerry Barycki <jerrybarycki@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2024 10:15 PM
To: Barycki, Jerry <jerrybarycki@gmail.com>
Subject: Article summarizing the Anniversary Jubilee (550) of the Birth of Nicolaus Copernicus 2023 in Urania

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Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

With the greatest of pleasure, we present to you an article summarizing the Anniversary Jubilee (550) of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus 2023, which soon will appear in the magazine **Urania**, a monthly publication devoted to the popularization of astronomical knowledge in Poland, published by the Polish Astronomical Society.

We invite you to learn about the content of a Polonia project, "Made in Windsor, Canada", as an example of the activities of Polonia in Canada and the worldwide promotion of Polish Science.

Respectfully and with thanks to everyone involved in the project,

Jerzy Barycki, President, Events Committee, Executive Council, CPC
Anniversary Jubilee (550) of the Birth of Nicolaus Copernicus 2023

A DISPLAY ON THE OCCASION OF THE 550TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF NICOLAUS COPERNICUS - A GIFT FROM POLONIA IN CANADA

In the May issue of *Urania*, Krystyna Sroczyńska, Association of Polish Engineers in Canada, reported on a display that was being made about Copernicus, prepared by Polonia in Windsor, Ontario. Its originator, author and chief organizer is engineer and Polonia action taker, President of the Polish-Canadian Business and Professional Association of Windsor, Jerzy (Jerry) Barycki. In the work on the project, he had support from association members Frank Simpson, Stanisław Bęben, Małgorzata Holec, and Ewa Barycka as well as a student, Dawid Makarczyk.

The display was intended to lend luster to Copernicus Year and the organizers took inspiration from the impressive celebrations, arranged by Polonia in 1973 on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Nicolaus Copernicus. In this year's undertaking, the Canadian Polish Congress (CPC), the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Canada, and the World Polonia Council joined forces and also there was support from numerous other Polish and Canadian institutions. The work began in 2021 with the acquisition of materials and funding as well as gaining patrons.

In 2022, an Events Committee was formed from the CPC Executive Council, comprising: Jerzy Barycki, John Tomczak, Dominik Roszak, Barbara Stadnik-Felińczak, and Grażyna Gałęzowska. John Tomczak, President of the CPC Executive Council, made a major contribution to its promotion in Canada and Poland, as did two Vice Presidents of the World Polonia Council, Dominik Roszak and Tadeusz Pilat; thanks to them, information about the project was presented to over forty member countries.

As noted by the author of the display, Jerzy Barycki, his adventure with Copernicus began during a visit to Poland in 2008 with the chance discovery in a second-hand bookstore of a pre-war edition of "Stomata Copernicana" by L.A. Birkenmajer (1924), one of the most famous biographers of Copernicus, and of "The Oldest Biography of Nicolaus Copernicus from the Year 1588", penned by Bernardino Baldi (1973). They travelled to Canada, only to gather dust over the years on his bookshelves... However, everything changed, when a few years later, he received from Stefan Władysiuk, a librarian at the W. Stachewicz Polish Library in Montreal, the book "Copernicus Jubilee in Canada 1473-1973", by Maria R. Lemanski, an account of Polonia events for the 500th anniversary in Canada of the birth of Copernicus. The scope of these celebrations awakened in him the realization that Polonia should remind the world about his genius compatriot, the father of modern astronomy, notably in the coming year 2023, on the occasion of the 550th anniversary of his birth. It was a call to action and in this way the idea of the display was born.



Nicolaus Copernicus



1473-1543

The first public presentation of it was during the inauguration of Copernicus Year in Windsor on 17 February 2023 at the University of Windsor, with the participation in the celebration of Witold Dzielski, the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Canada, among others.



Inauguration of Copernicus Year with formal presentation of the display at the University of Windsor

Polonia many times had been witness to enterprises that recalled important events or historical figures, but the Windsor display in honor of Copernicus is an absolute phenomenon. Production and coordination were by a relatively small organization with a very modest budget, located in a small Canadian city. However, thanks to some vision and initiative, it was possible to gather unique documentation and close to \$40,000 for the realization of this huge undertaking and with a symbolic contribution of funding from Poland. The display, at this time in five versions, each consisting of twelve large-format rollups, has been shown on the North American continent – in five of the Canadian provinces, namely in Ontario (23 times), Manitoba, Québec, Alberta, and Nova Scotia – altogether, 27 presentations. In the USA, it was presented in California and Michigan. In Europe, in addition to Poland, it was shown in Bulgaria and Norway. It even travelled to Australia. In Poland, it was shown in Warszawa (7 times), in Kraków (twice), in Lublin (twice), and in Pułtusk and Opole – altogether, there were 13 presentations. In Poland the logistics connected with circulation were supported by the “Polish Community” Association.

The display was prepared in Polish, French and English versions and is lent out according to the needs of the site of presentation. Only rarely in history have there been cases of an enterprise in such a format, prepared and financed by Polonia, meeting with recognition in Poland, as a present to our country of origin. The display was shown not only in the Parliament of Canada and the Parliament of Ontario, but also in the Senate of the Republic of Poland and at numerous Polish institutions of higher education, led by the Jagiellonian University (the alma mater of Copernicus). At the present time, the institution has signed an agreement with the author for the permanent showing of it in the Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science. It is also available in virtual form – it was presented on flash drives to participants at the Conference of the World Polonia Council in Vilnius in 2022 as well as at the Conference of the World Polonia and Polish People Abroad in Warszawa/Pułtusk 2023, at which delegates from over 40 countries met.



The display in the Senate of the Republic of Poland-- from the right, Jerzy Barycki, Prof. Marek Konarzewski, President of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Prof. Jacek Popiel, Rector of the Jagiellonian University, Dawid Makarczyk, student

The display received expressions of recognition, both on one side of the ocean and on the other. Organization representatives, politicians, and scientists gave it praise for its verve and professional mode of preparation. I shall cite only a few of these opinions.

On the role of the display, Stan Skrzyszewski, curator of local Copernicus events, had this to say: *“In London, we organized three different events on the occasion of the 550th anniversary of the birth of Copernicus. At each of them, we presented the display that was the work of Jerzy Barycki and his team from Windsor. The display was very well received and gained the recognition of participants for its professional text and excellent graphics. Each location of the exhibition drew a different public, thanks to which we were able to present Copernicus to a wide body of representatives of the Royal Canadian Astronomical Society.”*

Scientists from institutions of higher education in Ontario also expressed their appreciation. *“The Copernicus revolution led to modern understanding of the mechanisms of the heavens and taught us humility in the face of the immensity of the cosmos. The program and the display devoted to Copernicus at the Cronyn Observatory in London were an excellent way of bringing a wider public closer to the thoughts of the Polish genius and the consequences of these thoughts.”* This was the opinion of Dr. Pauline Barmby, Canadian astronomer and Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Western Ontario. Dr. Gordon Osinski, a professor at the same university in the Department of Earth Sciences and trainer of NASA astronauts in the field of geology, for his part emphasized: *“Nicolaus Copernicus opened the door to modern exploration of the cosmos, and I am honored to be a part of this never-ending exploration of the universe. The excellent program made appealing by the display, with my participation provided the opportunity to describe the very latest achievements in astronomy and my role as a member of the geological team, assembled by NASA in the framework of the Artemis III moon mission. In 2025, astronauts will land on the Moon, and they will carry out geological fieldwork. The work begun by Nicolaus Copernicus lives on!”*

Similar opinions also came from the USA, like those from the mouth of Frank J. Dmuchowski, President of the Society of Friends of Polish Art in Detroit, representative of the Board of Trustees of the Polish Institute of Culture and Research: *“The display through the excellent connection of pictures and text guaranteed an outstanding journey through the life and times of Nicolaus Copernicus, famous as the Polish polymath genius of the European Renaissance and the golden age of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, whose heliocentric theory began a scientific and cultural revolution, the results of which are continuing into the XXI century.”*

There also were assertions from Canadian institutions, which valued the efforts of Polonia in preparing the event. *“Once more, I want to emphasize how proud the Windsor Museum was to be able to host the Copernicus 550 Display in June. The display was thoughtfully prepared and tells the important story of a key figure in the history of Science. The work by Jerry Barycki and his group is of the highest quality and his energy in the promotion of the display is unusual. I hope that there will be further cooperation in the future”* – wrote Madelyn Della Valle, Custodian of the Windsor Museum.

Congratulations also were received from Poland. *“We are very proud of Polonia in Canada for its promotion of our Polish heritage in the world – we thank and congratulate President Jerry Barycki,”* wrote Prof. Dariusz Wasik, Dean of the Faculty of Physics at the University of Warsaw.

The organizers of the Polonia display prepared souvenir medallions with a portrait of Copernicus and officially presented them to individuals, who contributed to its popularization. They also assisted the publication of topical Polish and Canadian postage stamps.



Presentation of the display with the participation of Ontario Premier Doug Ford in the Ontario Parliament, Toronto (30 May 2023)

The celebrations of the Copernicus Jubilee came to an official conclusion on 30 November 2023 during the “All Star Gala” Concert in Mississauga, with the participation of an audience of nearly a thousand. However, interest in the display continues -- requests still are being received from Canada, the USA, Lithuania and Poland for presentations of it in 2024. The entire effort is therefore an excellent example of the promotion of Polish Science around the world.

Anna Łabieniec

Translated from the Polish by Frank Simpson



THE CITY OF WINDSOR

Item 5.3

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DREW DILKENS, DBA
MAYOR

February 20, 2024

Tsuneo Suzuki
Mayor of the City of Fujisawa, Japan
Mayor's Office, Fujisawa City Hall
1-1 Asahi-Cho, Fujisawa
Kanagawa, Japan, 251-8601

Dear Mayor Tsuneo Suzuki:

From your Sister City of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, our City Council and International Relations Committee, and on behalf of all our residents: congratulations on your recent re-election as Mayor of Fujisawa. Certainly, through your time as Mayor, it has been evident that you continue to attach great importance to Fujisawa's foreign exchange work. Windsor has enjoyed a strong Sister City relationship with Fujisawa since 1987. That year, our two communities pledged eternal friendship, with wishes of prosperity and mutual exchanges of education, culture, tourism and other programs. This commitment was made to contribute to a better understanding between the people of Canada and Japan to achieve world peace and prosperity.

In 2017, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our Sister City relationship. That was also our ninth year of welcoming exchange students from Fujisawa's Misono School. It was an honour to have you and your delegation visit us to celebrate, and we were grateful to receive a Cherry Blossom tree – representing the unofficial national flower of Japan – as a wonderful gift of friendship. Most recently, in 2023, we once again proudly displayed artwork from Fujisawa youth in the atrium of Windsor's family aquatic complex, and in a high-profile location at Windsor's Devonshire Mall. The exhibition's theme was 'Friendship', providing our residents with a glimpse into Fujisawa as illustrated by the vibrant works of art from your young citizens. It was also my honour last year to welcome another group of Misono students to City Hall, where they toured Council Chambers, and explored the best of Windsor during their two-week visit to Canada. With many Japanese residents and organizations in Windsor, we continue to welcome every opportunity to share new, important cultural exchanges and experiences with you. Such visits and initiatives help us share our stories with one another.

I know that under your continued leadership, we will further strengthen the close bond between Fujisawa and Windsor. Thank you for your partnership. It is my hope that Windsor will celebrate many more Fujisawa-shi to no naganen no yūjō.

Sincerely,

Drew Dilken



THE CITY OF WINDSOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Item 5.4

DREW DILKENS, DBA
MAYOR

May 1, 2024

Mr Krzysztof Żuk
Mayor of the City of Lublin, Poland
Plac Króla Władysława Łokietka 1
20-109
Lublin, Poland

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” | Jane Goodall

Dear Mayor Krzysztof Żuk,

I am pleased to write to you once again today, with greetings on behalf of the City of Windsor, and enthusiastic congratulations on your recent re-election. As you celebrate your 14th year in office, it is good to know that we will continue to enjoy the opportunity to work together and collaborate from across the globe. I have said before that I am impressed by your vision for a strong Lublin, which inspires others and has a positive impact on your community's economy and quality of life. I look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in your new term.

Our two twin cities have shared a strong connection for nearly a quarter of a century. Our solid working relationship, and impactful engagement opportunities have certainly contributed to our long-lasting friendship. In the City of Windsor, we continue to value and appreciate the many visits and political, educational, and cultural exchanges between our communities. I believe our bond has helped both Windsor and Lublin prosper in many ways over the years. This relationship remains important and beneficial, not only to our local Polish population, but to our entire community.

The City of Windsor is one of the most diverse communities in Canada, and we celebrate this fact often. Today, in fact, we will once again welcome our Polish communities to City Hall to raise the flag and to proclaim May as “Polish Heritage Month” in Windsor. As you know, our local Polish-Canadian community is vibrant, and through the efforts of folks like Jerry Barycki and organizations like the Polish-Canadian Business & Professional Association of Windsor, they help to make our city an amazing place through investments and celebrations, exhibitions, and the honouring and sharing of your traditions and culture. I wish you, and all the residents you represent, the very best as you continue to move forward with your vision of a bright future in Lublin.

Sincerely,

Drew Dilkens



**THE POLISH-CANADIAN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF WINDSOR**



Save this date!



**Brian Masse, M.P. Windsor-West, will be our
Keynote Speaker**

at the 27th Annual Polish-Canadian Society Business Dinner,
scheduled for Friday, November 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at Dom
Polski Hall, 1275 Langlois Ave, Windsor, Ontario.

Item 5.6

From: [Gebauer, Sandra](#)
To: [Kadour, Karen](#)
Subject: FW: Municipality Twinning Programs
Date: May 1, 2024 10:54:42 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[SISTER CITY - TURKEY.pdf](#)

From: Knight Last <omer.yanbucp@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 11:02 PM
To: Gebauer, Sandra <sgebauer@citywindsor.ca>
Subject: Re: Municipality Twinning Programs

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Dear great Sandra. Have a nice day(s).

I would share you my file again for this year 2024. Maybe will find opporrunity to start it, due it is very important step for our lovely home Canada and lovely Windsor community. With my endless loyalty.

Wish you all the best.

Yours sincerely,

Omer KORKMAZ.

Windsor Mayor

RE: Municipality Twinning Programs.

Date: February 8th, 2023

Dear Mayor,

First off, I am extremely grateful of living in one of the greatest cities in Ontario. I have lived in Istanbul, Turkey for 30 years of my life and feel that my transition to Windsor has been seamless.

Not only am I appreciative of how welcome the community is in Windsor, but I am also grateful of how safe this city is.

After living in Turkey for a few decades, I have been implementing the idea of building a relationship between Windsor with other counties for business. I wish that ties can strengthen between Windsor, Turkey "Sea & River sides Cities and Regions" Middle Eastern and gulf countries, such as Lebanon, Qatar, and UAE, which carry some of the world's largest brands.

I strongly believe that strengthening these ties will greatly benefit Windsor's growth, by engaging in a trustable construction investment, cultural brotherhood, friendship, and eventually develop successful brands.

To further this, I have worked in a consulting company for Deha Counsaling with an office located in Turkey. Having the opportunity to work for the country of Morroc, Lebanon / Saida provided me with several projects to build the business relationships between Qatar and Turkey.

Promoting this relationship resulted in bringing the attention of several investors, developers and contractors to Turkey. I would be highly interested in becoming a member of the City of Windsor in assisting with building relations between countries.

For visibility, I speak three language Turkish, Arabic and English. I carry several years of experience in the consulting field and business relations.

I hope to hear from you and look forward to discussing opportunities. Kind Regards, Omer Korkmaz

Twin Cities with the Corporation of the City of Windsor

(Chronological Order)

<u>City and Country</u>	<u>Year of Twinning</u>	<u>2023/2024 Anniversary</u>
Granby, Canada	1956 (May)	67/68
Coventry, England	1963	60/61
St. Etienne, France	1963 (June)	60/61
Udine, Italy	1977 (November 14)	46/47
Mannheim, Germany	1980 (April 14)	43/44
Ohrid, Macedonia	1981 (June 29)	42/43
Las Vueltas, El Salvador	1987 (April 13)	36/37
Fujisawa, Japan	1987 (December 2)	36/37
Changchun, China	1992 (June 16)	31/32
Saltillo, Mexico	1994 (November 6)	29/30
Lublin, Poland	2000 (June 26)	23/24
Gunsan, South Korea	2005 (June 20)	18/19