

**CITY OF HAMILTON**

**CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
***Customer Service, Access & Equity Division***

<b>Report to:</b> Chair and Members Corporate Administration Committee	<b>Submitted by:</b> Joseph L. Rinaldo General Manager Finance and Corporate Services
<b>Date:</b> April 27, 2006	<b>Prepared by:</b> Jane Lee, ext. 2654

**SUBJECT: City Twinning (City Wide) (FCS06049) *Referred from Corporate Administration Committee on March 23, 2005***

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- a) That Report FCS06049 be received for information.
- b) That the request for additional information City Twinning, Item G on Outstanding Business of the Corporate Administration Committee be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

---

Joseph L. Rinaldo  
General Manager  
Finance and Corporate Services

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Corporate Administration Committee asked for information concerning the Mundialization Committee, its budget, membership, and the number of twin cities that Hamilton is twinned with. This report provides the requested information, as well as an outline of the purpose of the committee, activities they undertake, and their discussions about future direction.

**BACKGROUND:**

On March 16, 2006, the Corporate Administration Committee received a report from the Hamilton Mundialization Committee regarding a visit to Sarasota. This report was received for information.

## **SUBJECT: City Twinning (City Wide) (FCS06049) - Page 2 of 5**

During the discussion on the report, several questions were raised. Staff were asked to report back to committee with additional information about twinning, to address the following questions:

1. Who and how many cities is the City of Hamilton twinned with?
2. Costs for twinning activities
3. Who are the members of the Mundialization Committee?

The following information is provided in response.

### **ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:**

The Purpose of the Mundialization Committee is as follows:

- To promote Hamilton as “A World (Mundialized)” City dedicated to global awareness, international cooperation and world law.
- To further the work of the United Nations through publicity and education and to have the United Nations flag flown with the Canadian flag from City Hall at all times.
- To undertake twinning programs in international cooperation with like-minded municipalities in this and other countries and to foster an understanding of the increasing interdependence of the municipalities, peoples and countries of the world.
- To involve Hamilton citizens of different cultures, especially those from the countries of our sister communities, to share in our multicultural programs.
- To include representatives of City Council in the Committee for implementing programs.

In accordance with their constitution, anyone can join the Mundialization Committee at an annual membership fee of \$10. The Executive Committee, which organizes events and follows through with the purpose, is chosen at an Annual General meeting held each year in May. This year's Annual General meeting is May 17, 2006, where nominations and an election will take place to select the new Executive Committee.

The 2005 Executive committee is as follows: Andy Chen, Ida De Jesus, Rein Ende, Margaret Firth, Gloria Jackson, Neena Monteiro, Solomon Ngan, Jane Wanamaker, Rob Winner and Rebecca Yanyan Xu.

As part of their role, the Committee supports and organizes contacts with the City's twin cities. The City of Hamilton is twinned with 10 cities as follows, including an indication of the year the twinning relationship commenced:

- Shawinigan, Quebec (1958)
- Kaga, Japan (1968)
- Mangalore, India (1968)
- Fukuyama, Japan (1975)
- Racalmuto, Sicily (1987)
- Ma'Anshan, China (1987)

## **SUBJECT: City Twinning (City Wide) (FCS06049) - Page 3 of 5**

- Flint, Michigan (1987)
- Sarasota, Florida (1991)
- Valle Peligna, Abruzzo (1991)
- Monterrey, Mexico (1996)

In addition to the twin city relationships and activities, they also organize, sponsor or support other activities in the City of Hamilton, in order to fulfil their purpose. In the past they have sponsored many events.

Two recurring events organized by the committee are the World Citizenship Award, honouring Hamiltonians who have made significant contributions to world peace, locally or globally, and an annual Unity in Diversity Event, showcasing the culture and foods of the Hamilton's twin cities. They have also supported participation of Hamilton school children in various art competitions, video exchanges, and exchange programs for youth, hosted visitors from our twin cities, supported visits to our twin cities, and support connections between our sister cities.

The Mundialization Committee has recently undertaken a number of strategic discussions in which they have reviewed their purpose, the types of activities they undertake, the current connections with our twin cities, and planning for the future.

There is recognition that in the case of some twin cities, there are strong community connections. For example, there are strong connections at the community level between the two Italian twin cities, and the people of Hamilton. In this case, the Mundialization Committee supports activities of Festitalia by attending their functions. In addition, the Canusa Games is the ongoing connection between Hamilton and Flint, Michigan. Visits from officials from Ma'Anshan are common, occurring almost every year. Recent connections with Sarasota have strengthened with connections having been formed between the Canada Marine Discovery Centre in Hamilton, and Mote Marine Museum in Sarasota, connections between the Art Gallery of Hamilton and the art gallery in Sarasota, as well as a recent and very successful internet art show in Sarasota of student art from Mohawk College.

Although the committee undertakes activities that relate to all areas of their purpose, they have recently identified some issues that make it difficult for them to fulfil their purpose, as follows:

- Missing linkages with local cultural communities required to support twinning activities with all of our twin cities
- Need for stronger regular connections with twin cities
- Need to plan for recognition of anniversaries of twinings
- Need to recognize and connect with existing strong community connections
- Lack of resources (time, members, budget)
- Scattered collection of artefacts & records

They have developed a workplan for the next year, with the focus to be on strengthening the connections and involvement of Hamilton's cultural community groups representing the countries of our twin cities, looking at opportunities for education about

## **SUBJECT: City Twinning (City Wide) (FCS06049) - Page 4 of 5**

the cultures of our twin cities in school activities and linkages, and strengthening our involvement in and connections with our sister cities, starting with Mangalore and Fukuyama.

The Committee and the City occasionally receives requests to consider new twinning relationships with other cities in other countries. The Mundialization Committee has recently considered Guidelines for Twinning, which was approved by the Council for the City of Hamilton in January, 1992.

These guidelines set out these points for consideration of new twin city relationships:

- a) It is desirable that a potential twin city state its intent or plan for mundialization in the twinning contract that is negotiated with the City of Hamilton.
- b) It is desirable that the potential twin city identify a group within its city to liaise with the Hamilton Mundialization Committee.
- c) It is desirable that the premiere purpose of twinning should be promotion of grass roots or people exchanges between the cities. This will include a) broad support for the potential twin city relationship within the equivalent cultural community and b) representation and active participation of the equivalent cultural community in Hamilton on the Hamilton Mundialization Committee.
- d) It is desirable that procedures and mechanisms for the presentation of proposals for twinning by interested parties to City Council be defined and formalized.
- e) It is desirable that the procedures indicate the point in the selection process of a twin city when a recommendation from the Mundialization Committee is solicited.
- f) It is desirable that there be a review of each twinning relationship every five years.
- g) It is desirable that under normal circumstances, no more than one new twin city be selected within a two-year period.
- h) It is desirable that the respective responsibilities of City Hall and the Mundialization Committee for arrangements for each exchange visit be clearly defined in the planning phase of the visit.

The Mundialization Committee concur with these guidelines, and are not at present recommending any additional twin relationships, preferring to focus on the health and strength of our current relationships, and to work on local opportunities for understanding of the cultures of our twin cities.

### **ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Not applicable.

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The annual budget for the Mundialization Committee provided by the City of Hamilton for 2006 is \$5890, including \$2000 which supports the Kids for Kaga exchange program. The committee also received \$3500 in sponsorship funds in 2005 from various local businesses which support their activities, and membership fees from members.

2005 expenditures and income (excluding the Kids for Kaga program) are as follows:

Income:	\$7631.68
Expenditures:	\$6777.88

The primary expenditures were for the World Citizenship Award, and the Unity in Diversity Event. They also supported the reception for the Sakura tree planting ceremony at Bay Front Park, and incur expenses for meetings and for support of twinning activities.

**POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:**

Not applicable

**RELEVANT CONSULTATION:**

Staff meet regularly with the Mundialization Committee, and have ongoing discussions with them concerning their activities and the support for Hamilton's twin cities.

**CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:**

By evaluating the "**Triple Bottom Line**", (community, environment, economic implications) we can make choices that create value across all three bottom lines, moving us closer to our vision for a sustainable community, and Provincial interests.

**Community Well-Being is enhanced.** ☒ Yes ☐ No

The well-being of the community is enhanced through recognition of the diversity or cultures in Hamilton, as well as the recognition of the need for global understanding and support for peace activities, identified in the purpose of the Mundialization Committee.

**Environmental Well-Being is enhanced.** ☐ Yes ☒ No

There are no negative impacts on the environment.

**Economic Well-Being is enhanced.** ☐ Yes ☒ No

There are no negative impacts on the economy of the City.

**Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants?**

☐ Yes ☒ No