

Minutes - Final
International Relations Committee

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

5:30 PM

Huronia Room A

**For consideration by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee of the City of
Barrie on May 27, 2015**

**The International Relations Committee met at 5:30 p.m. in the Huronia Room
"A" and the following were in attendance:**

Present:

D. Morrison, Chairperson
C.F.B. Borden, 16 Wing, Major J.M. Pigeon
China Friendship, M. Sachkiw
Georgian College, L. Palson
German Twinning, I. Horne
German Twinning, R. Warman
The Borough of Harrogate, P. Sachkiw
The Borough of Harrogate, B. Sergeant
Puerto Princessa, Philippines Committee, E. Cudanin
Puerto Princessa, Philippines Committee, B. Crasco
Youth Ambassadors Program, J. Babcock
Youth Ambassadors Program, C. Hewitt.

Staff:

Committee Support Clerk, T. Maynard.

The International Relations Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "A"

GERMAN TWINNING REPORT AND GERMAN CANADIAN CLUB REPORT

J. Pigeon provided an update regarding German Twinning. Mr. Pigeon commented that a delegation of tourists from Zwèibrücken, Germany will be visiting the City of Barrie between August 24, 2015 to September 4, 2015.

R. Warman noted that the local King Edward Choir will be hosting a concert during the month of May and the singing will be in German.

I. Horne provided an update on the German Canadian Club and she commented that a bus trip has been planned for May 27, 2015 to Niagara Falls.

JAPAN TWINNING REPORT

D. Morrison provided an update regarding twinning with Murayama, Japan. The Committee discussed re-establishing this relationship with Murayama, Japan. Mr. Morrison suggested that Hiromi Noguchi may be willing to assist with re-establishing this twinning relationship.

TAIZHOU, CHINA TWINNING REPORT

D. Morrison reported that he has not received any correspondence in relation to the Taizhou, China Twinning.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS UPDATE

The Committee met and discussed the status of the Youth Ambassadors visits as follows:

Zweibrücken, Germany

J. Babcock provided an update regarding the Global Perspectives Program. Mr. Babcock commented that a youth delegation from the City of Barrie through the Global Perspectives Program will be travelling to Zwèibrücken, Germany from May 21, 2015 to June 21, 2015.

Mr. Babcock invited the Committee to a "Global Presents" event taking place at Innisdale Secondary School on May 19, 2015.

Murayama, Japan

C. Hewitt provided an update regarding Murayama, Japan. Ms. Hewitt commented that she is waiting on confirmation from Murayama, Japan about their youth delegation visit to the City of Barrie which is anticipated during the summer 2015.

Taizhou, China

D. Morrison provided an update regarding Taizhou, China. He noted that the youth ambassador trip to Taizhou, China scheduled during the summer 2015 has been cancelled as there were not enough applications received.

BOROUGH OF HARROGATE, NORTH YORKSHIRE UNITED KINGDOM

B. Sergeant provided an update regarding the Borough of Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom.

Mr. Sergeant commented that an official delegation from the Borough of Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom will be visiting the City of Barrie from June 30th, 2015 to July 7th, 2015. He noted that the official delegation will potentially consist of Sir Thomas Ingilby, the Mayor and Mayoress (currently Elect) who are Councillor Nigel and Mrs. Lynn Simms, Alderman Mike Newby and Lorna Snowden. The Committee provided their suggestions regarding the possible venues to host during this delegation. B. Sergeant will provide the Committee with budget requirements for this delegation at a future meeting.

Mr. Sergeant noted that an unofficial delegation consisting of Jennifer Rushton who is a direct descendent of Sir Robert Barrie and Neil Rushton will be visiting the City of Barrie from June 24, 2015 and staying in the area until July 4, 2015.

PUERTO PRINCESSA, PHILIPPINES

B. Crasco provided an update regarding Puerto Princessa, Philippines. Mr. Crasco noted that he will be visiting Puerto Princessa, Philippines in June. He noted that he will follow up with the Puerto Princessa, Philippines government about the status of the proposed twinning arrangements.

FUTURE TWINNING OPPORTUNITIES - ARRAS, FRANCE

The Committee met and discussed a future twinning opportunity with Arras, France. R. Warman and J. Pigeon provided a historical background of the relation between the City of Barrie, Base Borden and Arras, France and explained the rationale behind the twinning opportunity .

Mr. Warman explained that in the battle thousands of Canadian Military personnel fought and several thousand dies before the ridge was liberated. To reach the battle area many of the soldiers would have rested in and or passed through Arras, France on their way to the front. Many of these same soldiers who took part in this battle were trained at the Canadian Forces Base Borden. The Base Borden is very close to Barrie and again, many of these solders would have visited or passed through our city while training at Base Borden.

Mr. Pigeon commented that if approved signing the twinning documents in 2017 as this is the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge.

The International Relations Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "B"**PROPOSED FUTURE TWINNING OPPORTUNITY - ARRAS, FRANCE**

1. That the City of Arras, France be invited to join a twinning relationship with the City of Barrie.;
2. That, if approved by both cities, the twinning ceremony to officially sign the twinning documents take place in the year 2017;
3. That a delegation from Barrie with a representative from CFB Borden travel to Arras, France in 2017 to participate in the signing of the necessary documents;
4. And further that the Mayor convey Barrie's invitation to the Mayor of Arras on his visit to Arras, France in June of 2015. (File: C05)

This matter was recommended for adoption to Finance and Corporate Services Committee for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 5/27/2015.

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

CHAIRMAN