

City of Barrie

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**For the consideration by Finance and Corporate Services Committee
of the City of Barrie on October 18, 2011.**

The International Relations Committee met at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 20, 2011 in Huronia Room "B".

PRESENT: D. Morrison, Chair
Councillor J. Robinson
CFB Borden, 16 Wing, Major J-M Pigeon
China Friendship Agreement Committee, L. LeRoux
China Friendship Agreement Committee, R. LeRoux
Georgian College Representative, M. Greaves
German Twinning Committee, I. Horn
Japan Friendship Agreement Committee, J. Laking.

STAFF: Recording Secretary, T Maynard.

The International Relations Committee met and reports as follows:

11-IRC-022 GERMAN TWINNING REPORT

J. Maurice Pigeon reported that the King Edward Choir recently travelled to Zweibrücken, Germany from August 5th to August 14th, 2011 and during their stay had an excellent visit. He noted that preparations are taking place for the German group Stadtkapelle Zweibrücken to visit the City of Barrie in 2013 and that the Huronia Symphony Orchestra is considering making a visit to Zweibrücken, Germany in 2014.

J. Maurice Pigeon noted that the current Mayor of Zweibrücken, Germany recently lost the election and Lord Mayor Elect Mr. Kurt Pirmann will take office in May 2012.

I. Horne stated that the German Canadian Club has numerous bus trips planned throughout Ontario.

11-IRC-023 JAPAN TWINNING UPDATE

There was no update provided at this time.

11-IRC-024 TAIZHOU, CHINA TWINNING UPDATE

The Committee noted that Georgian College is organizing a delegation to Taizhou, China in early November 2011. G. Dangerfield commented that the Georgian College would be delighted to deliver greetings on behalf of the City of Barrie.

11-IRC-025 YOUTH AMBASSADORS UPDATE

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

Zweibrücken, Germany

D. Morrison reported that a youth delegation from the City of Barrie recently travelled to Zweibrücken, Germany from May 28, 2011 to June 30, 2011 and had a wonderful time. A youth delegation from Zweibrücken, Germany is visiting the City of Barrie from September 16, 2011 to October 14, 2011. D. Morrison noted that on Wednesday September 21, 2011 the German youth delegation will be taking the Serendipity Boat Cruise from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m and he invited the Committee members to attend. He explained that the goodbye party for the German youth delegation will be taking place on October 12, 2011 at the Southshore Centre starting at 6:00 p.m. and that a youth delegation from the City of Barrie will be travelling to Zweibrücken, Germany from May 27, 2012 to June 29, 2012.

D. Morrison reported that he will be making a presentation along with the German teachers from Zweibrücken, Germany at City Council on September 26, 2011.

Taizhou, China

The Committee suggested inviting a youth delegation from Taizhou, China to visit the City of Barrie in 2013.

Murayama, Japan

D. Morrison commented that he will contact a representative from Murayama, Japan and discuss the possibility of sending a City of Barrie youth delegation in summer 2012.

11-IRC-026 NEW INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Update Philippines

D. Morrison reported that he has been in contact with a representative of a local Filipino organization and they noted that Puerto Princesa, Philippines is interested in moving ahead with a possible twinning with the City of Barrie.

Report to Council – New International Opportunities

The Committee met and discussed drafting a report concerning the other possible international opportunities with Puerto Princesa, Philippines, St. Augustine, Florida, USA and The Borough of Harrogate of North Yorkshire, England. D. Morrison commented that he will prepare a draft report and will provide copies to the Committee members for their comments.

11-IRC-027 THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE OF NORTH YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND

The Committee agreed to send a crest of the City of Barrie with Jean Maurice Pigeon when he travels to the Borough of Harrogate of North Yorkshire, England in October, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN