



Optional Tours

3 optional tours will be offered on Wednesday September 14, 2016. Each tour costs \$50

They include:

#1- 9 holes of par 3 golf at the beautiful Emerald Greens Golf Course & Driving Range followed by a barbeque

#2- Walk and Dine at Prince Arthurs Landing:

Guided tour of our recently developed waterfront followed by dinner (at own cost) at Bight Restaurant and Bar – optional

The City of Thunder Bay encompasses an extensive natural harbour at the northwestern end of Lake Superior – the world's largest freshwater lake!

Over 55 km (34 miles) of waterfront is located within the City limits, along the great lake and the many rivers that traverse the water's edge.

The recently developed waterfront melds both the new and the old in a vibrant expression of the City's identity.

Come tour the historic Prince Arthur's Landing and Downtown Waterfront District and join in afterwards at the Bight Restaurant and Bar and experience one of the City's finest culinary delights.

Sister Cities National Conference 2016

The City of Thunder Bay and the Municipal Sister Cities Advisory Committee is pleased to be hosting the first annual National Sister Cities Conference in Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada.

Wednesday September 14, 2016- Welcome, Early Registration, Optional Tours

Thursday September 15 & Friday September 16, 2016- Conference Proceedings

Victoria Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario Canada

Registration Fee: \$300 CAD

Registration fee includes breakfast and lunch on September 15 & 16 and gala dinner on September 15, 2016

Conference attendees will experience economic, education and social benefits. There will be various opportunities to network with community and business partners both domestic and internationally. Emphasis will also be placed on the importance and significance of Sister City exchanges.

Session topics will include:

- **Making Lasting Connections in the Sister Cities Program**
- **Economic Development: Working with Your Chamber and Local Government Agencies**
- **Building Resource Sector Partnerships**
- **Medical Connections & Building Partnerships**
- **Cities Working Together to Improve Urban Services in Developing Areas**

[Download Draft Conference Agenda Here](#)

Register Now!

**#3- Tour of Kakabeka Falls,
followed by dinner at the Neebing
Roadhouse**

What You'll Experience:

- 40 metre high Kakabeka Falls is the second highest waterfall in Ontario with year round access for viewing
- Excellent views of the falls and gorge from the boardwalk that wraps around the top of the falls
- The Kaministiquia River has cut deep into the rocks to reveal 1.6 million year old fossils at the bottom of the falls
- Historic route of the Voyageurs
- Endangered Lake Sturgeon spawn at the base of the falls
- Walking and nature trails in summer and groomed cross-country ski trails

Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms has been placed on hold at the Victoria Inn at a conference rate of **\$125.00/night**

Rooms must be booked prior to **August 17, 2016 in order to guarantee to conference rate. Please quote block ID **#440535** to ensure you receive the conference rate**

Please call 1 800 387 3331 to book your room

Victoria Inn Thunder Bay

Contact

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At the heart of all sister city programs is a twinning agreement, signed by the mayors of each sister city, confirming the commitment of each community to the program.

These exchanges promote:

- Cross-cultural understanding.
- Municipal and technical cooperation
- Economic development opportunities.

Sister cities agree to send and receive delegations of various types, including political and business leaders, arts and cultural representatives, educators and technical experts.

Thunder Bay City Council has established a Twinning Relationship Policy and a Sister Cities Advisory Committee for the purpose of developing mutually beneficial economic and cultural interaction between communities. As economic development is the focus of Thunder Bay's program, municipal twinning provides an opportunity for both parties.

The City of Thunder Bay currently has four Sister Cities outside of Canada:

- Duluth, Minnesota.
- Gifu City, Japan.
- Little Canada, Minnesota.
- Seinäjoki, Finland.
- Jiaozuo, China (pending)



MAKING CONNECTIONS 2016



National Sister Cities Conference



September 14, 15, 16, 2016
 Victoria Inn, 555 West Arthur Street
 Thunder Bay Ontario
 Draft Agenda

Wednesday September 14, 2016

Welcome, Early Registration & Optional Tours

11:00 am – 8:00 pm	Registration Desk – Front Lobby of Victoria Inn
Option #1 2:30 pm – 7:00 pm	<u>Par 3 Golf & Dinner - \$50</u> 9-hole golf tournament at the beautiful Emerald Greens Golf Course followed by a barbeque and cash bar
Option #2 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm	<u>Walk & Dine at Prince Arthur's Landing - \$50.</u> Guided tour of our recently developed waterfront followed by dinner (at own cost) at Bight Restaurant and Bar – optional
Option #3 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm	<u>Tour of Kakabeka Falls, followed by dinner at the Neebing Roadhouse - \$50</u>

Thursday September 15, 2016

8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration – Victoria Inn Front Lobby
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Hot Breakfast – Embassy Ballroom
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Cities Seeking Cities Social – Embassy Ballroom Throughout and following breakfast will be an opportunity to connect and network with your fellow conference attendees.
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Opening Ceremonies – Embassy Ballroom

11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<p>Keynote Address- Embassy Ballroom Communications Protocol <i>Presenter:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shahzad (Sherry) Dowlatshahi, Chief of Protocol and Head of International Relations, International Relations Office, Economic Development Department, City of San Antonio</i>
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch – Embassy Ballroom
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm	<p>Breakout Session #1A – Kensington Room</p> <p>Making Lasting Connections in the Sister Cities Program This presentation will focus on how the exchange has changed the lives of those from Duluth and our friends from our Sister Cities. Neil will speak of his own experience and will show a short video, which was produced in Duluth, showing the impact on local participants. Many of these friendships have become "life-long" friendships and even several marriages between Duluthans and Sister City participants.</p> <p><i>Presenter:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Neil Glazman, Duluth Sister Cities International</i>
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm	<p>Breakout Session #1B – Regency C</p> <p>Sports Diplomacy and Exchange Programs Sports have always been a way to bring people together and bridge cultural differences. Through sports diplomacy many sports teams are using their natural community-building platform to influence social, political, and diplomatic relations. Learn from experts on how you can influence your local sports teams to unite with teams abroad to make a difference.</p> <p><i>Panel Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Warren Philp, Executive Director, Thunder Bay International Baseball Association</i> • <i>Tony Anderson, Honorary Board Member, Sister Cities International</i> • <i>Tom Warden, Director of Athletics, Lakehead University</i>
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Nutrition Break
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<p>Breakout Session #2A – Kensington Room</p> <p>Economic Development: Working with Your Chamber and Local Government Agencies Your local chamber of commerce and government agencies share the desire to build a better community and enhance the city's economic development. Learn how these important institutions that care about promoting your community can benefit from your program so that your city may thrive in the global marketplace.</p> <p><i>Panel Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Doug Murray, CEO, Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission</i> • <i>Judy Sander, Manager, Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre</i> • <i>Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Local Entrepreneur and City Councillor</i>
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<p>Breakout Session #2B – Regency C</p> <p>Building Resource Sector Partnerships This presentation will speak to how, through innovation, those working in the resource sector in Northwestern Ontario are successfully creating and fostering lasting relationships with foreign and domestic partners and investors.</p> <p><i>Panel Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>John Mason, Project Manager, Mining Services, Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Richard Pohler, Senior Development Officer, Forestry, Manufacturing and Infrastructure, Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission</i> • <i>Jason MacLean, Assistant Professor, Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, Lakehead University</i>
5:45 pm – 10:00 pm	Gala Dinner and Entertainment Fort William Historical Park

Friday September 16, 2016

8:30 am – 9:15 am	Complimentary Light Breakfast – Embassy Room
9:15 am -10:45 am	Breakout Session #3A – Kensington Room Sister Cities Panel Discussion Members of Sister Cities will discuss successes and challenges in creating a strong Sister City presence in their communities. How they remain sustainable, how they garner community support and how their program works both on a local level and international level.
9:15 am – 10:45 am	Breakout session #3B- Regency C Medical Connections & Building Partnerships This panel will focus on how to implement the 5 partners of health care theory into industry leading, innovative and sustainable partnerships. 5 Partners of Health Care include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academics • Health care partnerships • Industry partnerships • Business relationships • Community <i>Panel Presenters:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tracie Smith, Senior Director, Communications and Engagement, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre</i> • <i>Dr. Michael Campbell, Director of Cyclotron Operations and Radiation Safety Officer, Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute</i> • <i>Dr. Roger Strasser, Dean, Northern Ontario School of Medicine</i>
10:45 am – 11:00 am	Nutrition break
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Keynote Address- Embassy Ballroom Cities Working Together to Improve Urban Services in Developing Areas This session will focus on the paper written by Ted. E. Hewitt that examines the structure and administrative impact of a cooperative urban development accord existing between the cities of Toronto, Canada and São Paulo, Brazil. Using a case study approach, the extent to which urban service delivery in São Paulo has been facilitated by this agreement—focusing on the critical area of emergency care provision—is examined. The paper suggests that as a form of development assistance, the type of international municipal cooperation demonstrated in the study may have considerable potential, insofar at least as possibilities for real improvement to established service delivery mechanisms in developing areas are evident <i>Presenter:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ted Hewitt, Professor of Sociology, Western University</i>

12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch – boxed lunch- Embassy Ballroom Making Connections in a Global Marketplace- Speaker TBA
1:15 pm	Closing ceremonies- Embassy Ballroom