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London
CANADA

January 19, 2018

Chair and Members
Corporate Services Committee

Re: Requests for "Sister City" Partnerships

From time to time the City of London receives requests from international cities to establish a "Sister City" partnership for cultural or commercial purposes. The City of London has entertained some of these partnerships in the past, but more recently the practice has been to not participate. However, I believe this position needs to be revisited given the increasing diversity of our population, our role as a Compassionate City, and the economic objectives of the City of London.

It would be beneficial to formalize the Municipal Council's position with respect to Sister City partnerships, be it to refrain from them altogether, or to only enter into a Sister City partnership if certain requirements are met. With this in mind, I would respectfully request that:

- a) the Civic Administration BE ADVISED whether or not the Municipal Council wishes the City of London to participate in Sister City partnerships; and
- b) depending on the direction in a), above, the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to report back at a future meeting of the Corporate Services Committee with the appropriate draft policy to support the Municipal Council's position with respect to Sister City partnerships.

Respectfully submitted,

H.L. Usher
Councillor, Ward 12