

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 22, 2014
FROM:	GRANT HOPCROFT, DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND COMMUNITY LIAISON
SUBJECT:	CANADA CARIBBEAN LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CARILED)

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Intergovernmental and Community Liaison, the following report on the Canada Caribbean Local Economic Development Program (CARILED) **BE RECEIVED.**

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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Board of Control: January 27, 2010: Canada Ukraine Municipal Local Economic Development (MLED) Program – FCM Mission to Ukraine
 Finance and Administration Committee: December 15, 2010; March 30, 2011; June 15, 2011; November 16, 2011: Canada Ukraine Municipal Local Economic Development Program – FCM Mission to Ukraine
 Finance and Administrative Services Committee: July 16, 2012: Canada Ukraine Municipal Local Economic Development Program; Canada Caribbean Local Economic Development, November 5, 2012
 Corporate Services Committee March 19, 2013, September 24, 2013: Canada Caribbean Local Economic Development. March 19, 2013: Canada Ukraine Municipal Local Economic Development Program.

BACKGROUND

As part of London’s commitment to the federally funded FCM International CARILED program on local economic development capacity building, London recently hosted a delegation from the Caribbean, June 2-6th, 2014. The City of London is one of a number of Canadian municipalities to serve as models of expertise in local economic development (LED) and as resources for deployment of their expertise in LED in the CARILED program.

The delegation from the Caribbean consisted of local politicians from communities in Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. Prior to arriving in London, the group participated in the FCM Annual General Meeting in Niagara Falls.

The CARILED program is a six-year initiative running from 2012-2018. The program currently operates in 7 Caribbean countries (Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad & Tobago) to develop models of LED that can be shared throughout the Region. It will eventually support nearly 50 local governments and agencies in their local economic development initiatives targeting more than 500 small and medium sized enterprises (MSME) throughout the Caribbean. It is a partnership with the Caribbean Forum of Local Government Ministers (CFLGM), the Caribbean Association of Local Government Authorities (CALGA) and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CFLG). CARILED is intended to stimulate local economic development through the growth of the micro, small and medium size enterprise (MSME) sub-sector and the strengthening of competencies and capacities in local governments or local agencies of central government in several Caribbean countries.

Councillor Usher, a member of FCM’s Standing Committee on International Relations participated in the Inaugural Local Governance Symposium 2013, meetings organized by the Caribbean Local Economic Development Program (CARILED) in both Belize and Jamaica, last September-October. Sarah Merritt, of the Old East Village Business Improvement Area has participated in a CARILED mission to discuss local economic development at the community level. Consultant Kadie Ward of Build Strong Cities, and volunteer Hans Schreff, of London Hydro, led consultations in Belize City, Belize in February. The consultations led to the submission of a BTL Park Draft Business Plan including strategies for Branding & Signage in March.

With the assistance of Kadie Ward, Civic Administration arranged a detailed program for the Caribbean delegates. They were welcomed by Mayor Fontana and Councillor Usher and toured

Councillors' offices and Council Chambers where they were recognized during the Planning and Environment Committee meeting. London Hydro hosted an official welcome dinner at the London Club. Delegates received presentations from Civic Administration, Councillor Joe Swan on the London Prosperity Plan, and from staff of the London Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) on the LEDC model. They also received presentations by the Small Business Centre, the Old East Village BIA, BizInc, Pillar Non-Profit, Downtown London, the City's Culture office, the City's Intergovernmental & Community Liaison Office, London Arts Council, London Heritage Council, and Build Strong Cities. The visit was rounded out by cultural tours, dinner at a local restaurant hosted by Council Usher, and a barbeque.

CARILED has recently approved ten Local Development Projects (LDPs) for implementation and is currently reviewing several other proposals from the seven countries noted above.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
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