



TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2016
FROM:	KATE GRAHAM DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC INNOVATION
SUBJECT:	CANADA UKRAINE PARTNERSHIP FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE (PLEDDG UKRAINE)

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director, Community & Economic Innovation, the attached proposed by-law (Appendix A) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting on February 16, 2016 to:

- a) authorize and approve a Memorandum of Understanding (attached as Schedule 1 to the by-law) between the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and The Corporation of the City of London regarding the Canada Ukraine Partnership for Local Economic Development and Democratic Governance (PLEDDG); and
- b) authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Memorandum of Understanding authorized and approved in a), above.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

- 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, April 7, 2015: Canada Caribbean Local Economic Development. March 19, 2013, July 22, 2014: Canada Ukraine Municipal Local Economic Development Program.

BACKGROUND

London has been invited to participate in the Partnership for Local Economic Development and Governance (PLEDDG). The program is a six-year, \$19.6 million capacity-building initiative developed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Ukrainian partners, and funded by Global Affairs Canada. London’s participation is contingent upon signing a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and FCM, with the endorsement of City Council.

PLEDDG aims to use Canadian municipal expertise to strengthen the municipal sector of 16 Ukrainian cities in four of the country’s 24 administrative regions. The program is focused on local democracy and economic development, specifically to create a more enabling environment for entrepreneurship and local economic development and facilitate the decentralization of authorities in order to better integrate development planning at local, regional, and national levels. Work in all these areas will also emphasize gender equality and women’s economic empowerment. PLEDDG also supports a green municipal environment for Ukrainian cities and increased trade and investment between Canada and Ukraine. All of these activities support PLEDDG’s ultimate goal: the improvement of economic opportunities for Ukrainians in a strengthened democracy. PLEDDG’s inception phase ran through mid-2015 and implementation is scheduled to begin mid-2016.

London began its involvement in FCM’s international programs in 2010 with its involvement in PLEDDG’s predecessor, the Municipal Local Economic Development (MLED) program with Ukrainian communities. PLEDDG will use a similar peer-to-peer approach to capacity building as the

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MLED program, where Canadian municipal experts would be invited to visit partner communities in Ukraine and provide guidance and support in needed areas. Municipal officials from Ukrainian communities may also periodically visit cities in Canada. The peer-to-peer approach not only builds capacity of communities, it also provides valuable professional development opportunities and forges new business and trade connections around the world. Canadian municipal experts also gain access to innovative policy research and best practices, becoming more responsive to the needs of their own citizens.

All expenses for the volunteers in the PLEDDG program are covered through the FCM program by funding from Global Affairs Canada. There is no financial contribution involved from the City of London, and the only investment required is the time of the individuals involved in the program. FCM will contact all partner municipalities as potential missions emerge in Ukraine, and partner Canadian municipalities have the opportunity to identify whether they wish to participate in each particular mission. Should City of London staff become involved in missions in Ukraine, a review would take place to ensure compliance with all policies including those related to insurance, benefits and otherwise.

This report recommends that the City of London participate in the PLEDDG program, and that Civic Administration be authorized to enter into the attached Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for the purposes of participating in this program.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
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