# Rotary Club of London-Sister City Community Service Initiative

### How does Rotary accomplish change...

- International student exchanges (8,000+/yr)
- International community development projects- linking clubs to fund raise and implement
- Friendship exchanges-life long relationships and capacity building
- Peace Scholarships for Graduate study in Peace and conflict Resolution
- Team with NGO's and Funding sources to eradicate Polio
- Works through vast network of clubs around the world to realize its objectives, not unlike City to City.

## My Name is Stephen Knox, President Rotary Club of London

Rotary is a network of over 1.2 Million business, professional, and community minded volunteers and leaders in 194 countries. Our motto, "service above self" A model of constructive community interaction, to bring goodwill, peace and understanding among all people

# Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

 Consider relationships fostered by the FCM that also engage in knowledge transfer and best practices. High level conferences that our Mayor and others attend are important dialog centers that have the opportunity to showcase our City. Programs have 3-5 year cycles. Over 2000 Canadian Cities are involved.

#### "CARILED"

- The Caribbean Local Economic Development Project (CARILED) was a five year project (amended from six years) to develop and test models of Local Economic Development (LED) across the Caribbean. Funded by Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, as well as other Caribbean and Commonwealth partners.
- These organizations parallel and support the concept of Sister Cities International which has protocols that will be important to model.

# Who runs "Partner-Cities" organizations and what do they do?

- Sister Cities International's members are independent organizations run by volunteers, reps from local institutions, and municipal governments.
- "Partner-Cities" organizations plan and implement cooperative activities and exchanges in cultural, educational, municipal/technical, business and humanitarian fields

# What does this have to do with London and sister city partnerships

- The purpose is to establish and sustain human relations between residents of the two cities through visits, projects and events of mutual discovery, appreciation, enjoyment, learning, development and response to crisis.
  - Friendships
  - Partnerships
  - Capacity Building

#### What's next...

- Pass the resolution requesting City Council to act on the proposal to develop a Sister City Policy
- City Council can invite its administrations to review the 2008 proposed policy on Sister Cities and recommend a re-activation of this initiative (or not).
- Government Relations would be able to assist in providing an interface to community groups, service clubs, hospitals, schools and museums interested in a London Policy for Sister Cities.

## What next (cont.)...

- Council, following staff recommendations, is encouraged to establish a revolving Sister City Committee (predominantly by non-elected representatives) with oversight and communication links to City Council. The Committee would assist in implementing Council's policy.
- The Committee would be accountable to Council.

### London Free Press Article

- Rotary Club of London members will teach residents of impoverished nation how to make beehives and dry mangoes
- By Hank Daniszewski, The London Free Press
- Tuesday, January 2, 2018 7:21:09 EST PM

## What next (cont.)....

- The Sister City Committee could work together to determine priority areas and create and implement activity recommendations on an annual basis. These would include the formal recognition process for entering into partner-city relationships.
- The Sister Cities would have as overarching outcomes: the benefit of individuals, neighborhoods, service clubs, educational institutions, government, businesses, professionals, religious, cultural and health institutions, including combinations of reciprocal visitations for friendship, business development and civil society capacity building and management.

