

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2013
FROM:	GRANT HOPCROFT, DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND COMMUNITY LIAISON
SUBJECT	VISITING DELEGATION FROM LONDON'S SISTER CITY, NANJING, CHINA MARCH 2013

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Intergovernmental and Community Liaison, this report on the Visiting Delegation from London's Sister City, Nanjing, China, March 2013, **BE RECEIVED.**

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Jinshan, Finance and Administration Committee, October 3, 2011.
 Team London Trade Scoping Mission to China, Finance and Administration, November 16, 2011
 Status Report on Team London Trade Scoping Mission to China, City Council, November 21, 2011
 Report on Team London Trade Scoping Mission to China November 2011, Finance and Administrative Services Committee, February 6, 2012
 Team London Trade Mission to China, March 2012, Special Meeting of Finance and Administrative Services Committee, March 20, 2012
 Team London Trade Mission to China, April 2012, Finance and Administrative Services, June 18, 2012

BACKGROUND

The City of London has had a sister city relationship with Nanjing, China since July 1997. Councillor Branscombe visited the city in 2010, and LEDC staff have also been to Nanjing during missions to the region. These visits were followed by Team London missions led by Mayor Fontana in November 2011 and April 2012. Nanjing is the capital city of Jiangsu, a sister province of Ontario.

During the April 2012 visit, Mayor Fontana and Team London celebrated the office opening of WORLDdiscoveries Asia-Nanjing Centre with a ceremony and the signing of agreements. During the mission, Mayor Fontana extended an invitation to Nanjing's Mayor for a delegation to visit London during the World Figure Skating Championships in March 2013.

At the time of writing of this report, the following was the expected program for the Nanjing delegation for March 13-14. Mr. Zong Ren, Deputy Chief Executive of the Jianye District of Nanjing was expected to lead the delegation of six people. The delegation included members of the Jianye District Science & Technology Bureau. Jianye District will host the Asian Youth Games this summer and the 2nd Youth Olympic Games in 2014, and is the location of the recently opened WORLDdiscoveries China office.

The program for the delegation included a meeting with Mayor Fontana, presentations from the London Economic Development Corporation, the London Chamber of Commerce and its Asian Business Opportunities Committee, the Chinese National Council – London Chapter, and the London Chinese Business Association. The group attended the opening ceremony of the World Figure Skating Championships in the City of London suite at Budweiser Gardens. They met with Western University researchers on campus to discuss Canadian-Chinese cooperation in the

scientific research and technology commercialization, and toured WORLDiscoveries. The delegation attended a dinner hosted by WORLDiscoveries and involving representatives of the City, LEDC, the London Chamber of Commerce, and representatives of the Chinese-Canadian community in London. Following the dinner, the delegation viewed the Tree of Light Sound and Light Show. They left early the following morning for a flight to Shanghai.

The visiting delegation paid its expenses for travel, hotels, and ground transportation. Direct civic expenses incurred by the City of London for receiving this delegation are approximately \$2,500 which includes tickets for the opening ceremony of the World Figure Skating Championships in the City of London box, refreshments, and official gifts. Interpretation was provided by City of London intern, Julie He. These costs will be accommodated within existing budgets of the City Manager's Office.

A verbal update of the visit can be provided to the Corporate Services Committee if desired.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
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c.c. Peter White, LEDC