

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2013
FROM:	GRANT HOPCROFT, DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND COMMUNITY LIAISON
SUBJECT:	CANADA CARIBBEAN LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

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

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Finance and Administrative Services Committee: November 5, 2012: Canada Caribbean Local Economic Development Program

BACKGROUND

The City of London has been selected by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) as 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 Caribbean Local Economic Development Program (CARILED), a 6 year program from 2012-2018. In accordance with normal program guidelines for such missions, all participant travel expenses will be paid by FCM.

A summary of the program is posted on the FCM website at <http://www.fcm.ca/home/programs/international/caribbean-local-economic-development-program.htm>.

As previously reported, CARILED will 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 (where no local government exists) in several Caribbean countries. Initially focussing on Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, the lessons, approaches, and practices learned through work in these areas will assist in creating new LED tools and models that will be disseminated throughout the region.

A preliminary scoping mission has taken place and follow-up scoping missions are under way. Kadie Ward of London is participating in a mission to Trinidad in March. Calls for volunteers are pending and various city staff with appropriate expertise will be engaged where appropriate. Further details will follow.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
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