



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** October 21, 2022
From: Cecilia Achiam **File:** 01-0100-30-SCIT1-01/2022-Vol 01
 General Manager, Community Safety
Re: **Sister City Advisory Committee Four Year Activity Plan (2023-2026)**

Staff Recommendation

That the 2023-2026 Sister City Advisory Committee Program Activity Plan be approved as described in the staff report titled “Sister City Advisory Committee Four Year Activity Plan (2023-2026)”, dated October 21, 2022, from the General Manager, Community Safety.

Cecilia Achiam
 General Manager, Community Safety
 (604-276-4122)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arts, Culture & Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recreation Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Richmond Public Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: <i>EB</i>
APPROVED BY CAO <i>Serenau</i>	

Staff Report

Origin

The Richmond Sister City Advisory Committee (SCAC) currently has a Four Year Activity Plan (2019-2022), which concludes on December 31, 2022.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #3 One Community Together:

Vibrant and diverse arts and cultural activities and opportunities for community engagement and connection.

3.2 Enhance arts and cultural programs and activities.

3.4 Celebrate Richmond's unique and diverse history and heritage.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #4 An Active and Thriving Richmond:

An active and thriving community characterized by diverse social and wellness programs, services and spaces that foster health and well-being for all.

4.1 Robust, affordable, and accessible sport, recreation, wellness and social programs for people of all ages and abilities.

Background

The City of Richmond has had a Sister City relationship with Pierrefonds, Quebec since 1967, Wakayama, Japan since 1973 and Xiamen, China since 2012. The City of Richmond formed a Friendship City relationship with Qingdao, China in 2008.

The specific objectives of the Sister City Program are:

- To establish and maintain relationships with designated Sister/Friendship Cities that are meaningful and sustained through on-going activity;
- To develop a broad base of activity for Sister/Friendship City relationships in which many people and organizations in the community participate through planned and ongoing contact; and
- To engage the Richmond community and the Sister/Friendship Cities in projects and exchanges that promote cultural awareness and joint learning opportunities.

Summary of 2019-2022 SCAC Activity Plan

The SCAC completed an active 2019-2022 program, which was supported with a Program Activity Budget of \$60,000 and the annual Sister City Program (SCP) Administration Operating Budget of \$11,000. Some of the SCAC activities during this period included:

- Celebrated Sister City relationship milestones:
 - Pierrefonds, Quebec – 55 years (2022)
 - Xiamen, China – 10 years (2022)
- Richmond - Wakayama Student Exchanges:
 - 36 Richmond Secondary students participated in the school exchange with students in Wakayama, Japan (2019)
 - Virtual exchange between students (2021)
 - Virtual exchange between students (2022)
 - Pen Pal program amongst elementary school students in Richmond and Pierrefonds (2019-2022) and Qingdao (2022)
- Participated in City events:
 - Cherry Blossom Festival (2019 | 2021 | 2022)
 - Steveston Salmon Festival Parade with entry of 50 participants (2019)
 - World Fest booth (2019)
 - Steveston Salmon Festival Booth (2022)
 - Walk Richmond – Sister City Walk – Pierrefonds (2022)
- Launched the “One Book, up to Five Cities” book club in partnership with Richmond Public Library (2019 | 2020 | 2021) including hosting author chats with Yann Martel and Michael Ondaatje (2019 | 2022)
- Exhibited art & photo works from sister/friendship cities:
 - Qingdao Art Display (2019)
 - “Past influencing Present” Photo Exhibition (2020)
 - Pierrefonds “Look Up” Photo Contest Street Banner (2022)
 - Sister City Program Photo Exhibition (2022)
 - Pierrefonds Sister City Photo Exhibition (2022)
 - Honouring Canadian Library Month (2022)
 - Initiated annual Bookmark Collection featuring pictures & artwork from sister/friendship cities (2019 | 2021)

The upcoming four year plan (2023-2026) builds on these past successes and offers many opportunities to further develop and strengthen our Sister/Friendship City relationships through official visits and student, sport and cultural exchanges. The SCAC will also continue exploring non-visit activities incorporating the learnings (i.e. preferred online communication technology for translation) from the pandemic.

Focus areas of the 2023-2026 SCAC Activity Plan

In accordance with the SCP Objectives, the primary focus for the proposed activity plan includes: fostering activities with the Richmond community and its sister/friendship cities in projects and youth exchanges that promote cultural awareness and joint learning opportunities.

The proposed annual SCAC 2023-2026 Program Activity Budget is \$60,000 in addition to the annual SCP Administration Operating Budget of \$11,000. This proposed activity budget (Attachment 1) and activity plan (Attachment 2) was recently endorsed by the SCAC for presentation to Council.

1. Milestone Anniversary

The SCAC is celebrating the 50th Anniversary milestone with Wakayama, Japan in 2023. To help inform the various engagement activities, the SCAC formed a sub-committee of current and past Sister City Committee chairs/vice chairs and conducted two formal meetings in 2022 to gather feedback and insight regarding celebration initiatives. The members of the sub-committee include: Sylvia Gwozd, Hans Havas, Jim Kojima and Kevin Lainchbury. Community engagement initiatives are planned throughout the year included in the SCAC Four Year Activity Plan and funded by the proposed SCAC Program budget. Some of the activities include a tree planting in the Wakayama Garden, Art Gallery exhibition, Street banners, a guided walk in partnership with Walk Richmond, and school engagement (i.e. virtual pen pal and art exchanges). Staff will be bringing a separate report to Council to outline an additional program element and associated budget for consideration.

2. Pierrefonds

In 2002, the City of Pierrefonds ceased to be a separate municipality and instead became a borough of Montreal. Following a period of inactivity, the SCAC initiated discussions in 2018 with the office of the Mayor of Pierrefonds, regarding their interest in retaining and developing an active Sister City relationship. The SCAC reported in the last four years, Pierrefonds is the most active sister city in activities and is continually proposing new activities to engage both of our cities. These activities are reflected in the attached activity plan.

3. Wakayama

Through the SCP, the City has contributed financially each year to support the successful annual Wakayama/Richmond student exchange program. This year marks the 48th year for the Wakayama/Richmond student exchange. Since its inception, over 500 students from Wakayama and Richmond have participated in this program. The exchange has cultural significance for the students of Richmond as past students have travelled back to Japan to visit new friends while a number of teachers who facilitate this program also participated in the exchange program in their youth. In 2024, the SCAC is planning for a return of an in-person exchange where Wakayama students will travel to Richmond.

The established student exchange program is proposed to continue for the 2023-2026 period with an annual contribution of up to \$10,000 for outbound exchanges and up to \$4,000 for inbound exchanges. A list of additional funding sources (i.e. Kiwanis Clubs, Richmond Rotary Club) is maintained by the SCAC and will be shared with the Richmond School Board.

4. Xiamen and Qingdao

One of the challenges in nurturing the relatively new China relationships is the emphasis of their government officials to initiate business and tourism related activities, as opposed to community and educational activities. The SCAC continues to work closely with Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations in passing along business and tourism-related initiatives. The SCAC will focus on plans to foster more youth related sport and cultural exchange initiatives to further develop these relationships.

5. Community Engagement

Each year the SCAC participates in various City events to increase visibility and engage directly with residents about the Sister City Program. The SCAC also invites community members to join in marching in the Steveston Salmon Festival Parade. The SCAC is proposing an annual allocation of \$3,000 towards the cost of flags, banners, t-shirts and multi-cultural giveaways that are used for community engagement.

6. Arts & Culture Initiatives

The SCAC is proposing several new arts and culture initiatives in partnership with Richmond Public Library including:

- StoryWalk® - sharing of a StoryWalk® with our sister/friendship cities.
- Interactive sessions via virtual city tours (recorded or live); virtual youth chats and speaker talks
- SCAC is proposing an introductory, all ages, cultural themed craft projects known as "Take & Make It". Initial categories include paper folding and knot tying. These kits will be offered at City events, for school classes and as giveaways.

Other arts and culture initiatives are being explored through the City's Arts, Culture and Heritage team.

Financial Impact

None. The four year 2023-2026 SCAC Activity Plan, totaling \$284,000, is recommended to be funded from the annual Sister City Program operating budget as described in Attachment 1, if approved by Council. The current Sister City Program annual operating budget of \$71,000 (including \$11,000 annually for administration costs) is sufficient to fund the 2023-2026 SCAC Activity Plan. Staff will bring forward a separate budget request for any enhanced programs associated with commemorating the 50th Anniversary (2023) with Wakayama, Japan.

Conclusion

The Sister City Program is a valued and long-standing City initiative. The program is supported by the Sister City Advisory Committee, a dedicated group of community volunteers who are committed to achieving the SCAC activity plan goals. The approval of the 2023-2026 Four Year Plan will set clear direction for the Sister City Advisory Committee to maintain robust and meaningful Sister and Friendship City relationships.



Mike Romas
Manager, People Development
(604-276-4081)

Att. 1: Four Year (2023-2026) Activity Plan Budget

Att. 2: Four Year (2023-2026) Activity Plan

**Sister City Advisory Committee
Four Year (2023 – 2026) Activity Plan Budget**

The next four year (2023-2026) offers many opportunities to further develop and strengthen our Sister/Friendship City relationships through official visits, student, sport and cultural exchanges.

An activity budget allocation of \$240,000 is proposed for this period. The following sections provide budget information for engagement activities that the SCAC plans to carry out for 2023 - 2026.

Richmond Sister City Advisory Committee

SUMMARY OF 2023 – 2026 SCAC PROGRAM ACTIVITY BUDGET

Annual Program Activities	2023	2024	2025	2026
Educational Activities				
• Student exchanges	\$17,000	\$22,000	\$14,000	\$22,000
• Non-visit classroom exchange				
Active Living				
• Team/Athlete exchanges	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
• Hockey Jamboree				
Art & Cultural Activities				
• Art exchanges				
• Photo exchange/display	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$23,000	\$15,000
• Richmond Public Library book club and bookmark exchange				
Community Engagement (i.e. Steveston Salmon Festival Activation)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Total SCAC Program Activity Budget	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Administration Operating Budget	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
TOTAL	\$71,000	\$71,000	\$71,000	\$71,000



Richmond Sister City Advisory Committee

Four Year Activity Plan Proposal 2023 - 2026

2022 Sister City Advisory Committee Members:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Chair | Lisa MacNeil |
| Vice-Chairs | Allen Chan
Glenn Kishi
Melissa Zhang
Victor Zhuo |
| Members | Charan Gill
Joan Page
Karen Shigeno
Nick Sturtevant |
| School Board | Ken Hamaguchi
Debbie Tablotney |
| | Polly Tang
Sue Tian
David Yang
Jenny Zhang |

Building meaningful connections in our global community

The past four years have been rather unique yet we learned so much. Going into 2019, the Sister City Advisory Committee (SCAC) wanted to broaden our reach in Richmond with more non-visit activities. 2020 provided us with new possibilities and opportunities as we learned to live within pandemic times. SCAC initiated dialogue with community partners, participated in community events and co-hosted internationally known authors in partnership with Richmond Public Library. Video platforms like Zoom opened up communication with our sister/friendship cities to real-time exchange of ideas. As a committee, we look forward to continuing this path and seeing more experiences between our residents and the residents of Pierrefonds, Quebec; Wakayama, Japan; Xiamen & Qingdao, China.

GP - 21

Sister City Advisory Committee
City of Richmond
October 2022

2023 – 2026 Activity Goals

- ✓ Build on current relationships with sister/friendship cities
- ✓ Promote Sustainability & Active Living
- ✓ Continue exploring non-visit activities and showcase innovative programs around the city
- ✓ Consider activities for ALL age groups
- ✓ Encourage more information sharing
- ✓ Develop archival process to preserve Sister City Program collection

COVID PANDEMIC NOTE:
This plan was made in late 2021 / early 2022 when the COVID 19 pandemic continued. Given the uncertainty at what may happen in the time span of this proposal, this plan is subject to change.

Sister City

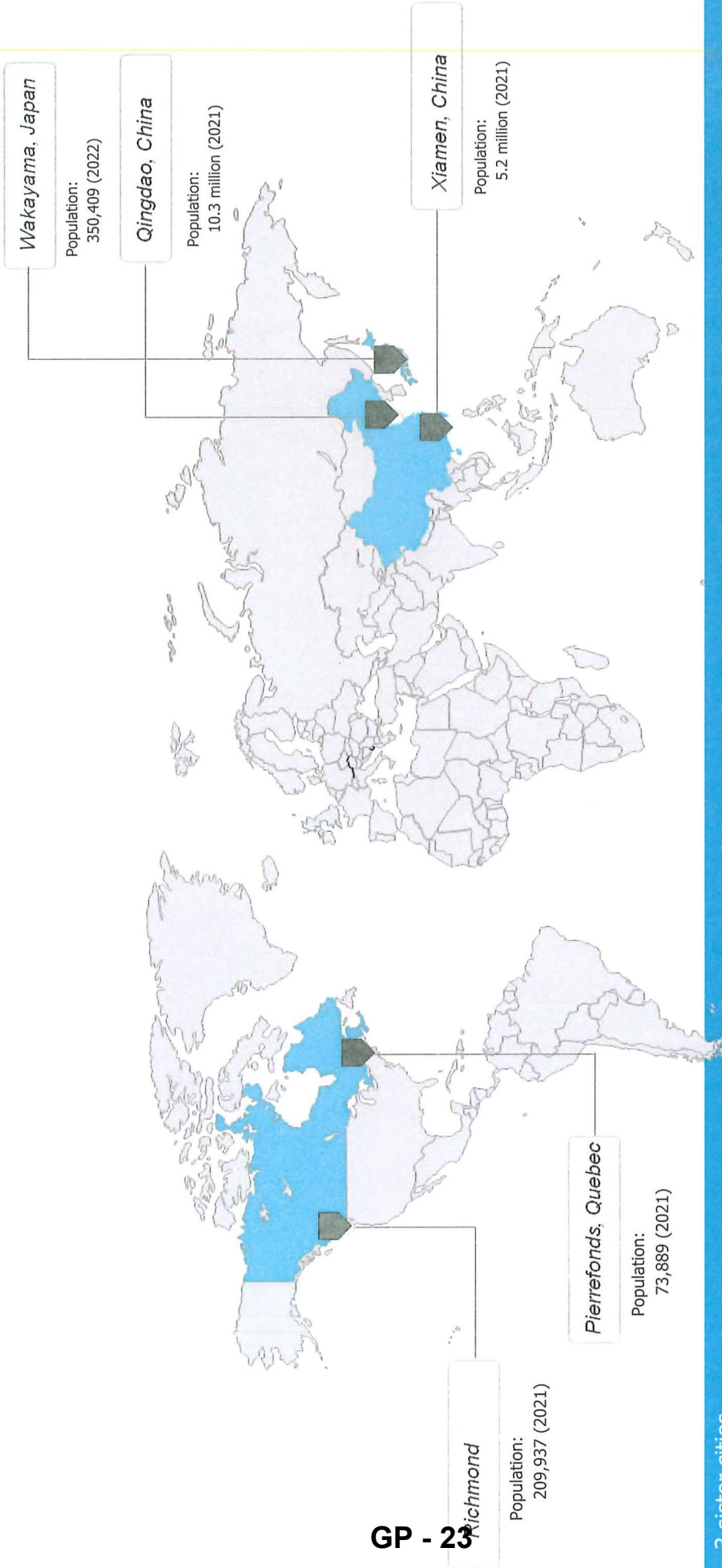
a city that is linked to another,
usually for the purposes of
cultural exchange

GP - 22

Friendship City

less formal relationship than
sister city

Definition



GP - 23

3 sister cities

Pierrefonds, Quebec | Wakayama, Japan | Xiamen, China

1 friendship city

Qingdao, China

Relationship Review

All cities rated highly engaged since 2019

Goals in the upcoming four years:

Pierrefonds

- Continue building on strong relationship

Wakayama

- Document Budget Planning Timeline
- Encourage non-visit activities

Xiamen

- Explore education non-visit activities

Qingdao

- Explore education non-visit activities

Activity Summary

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Annual Base Program Activities (Visit)				
Education	Pierrefonds	Pierrefonds	Pierrefonds	Pierrefonds
Active Living	TBC	Wakayama	Wakayama	Wakayama
Art	TBC	TBC	Hockey Jamboree	Xiamen: FIFA Football
	TBC	TBC	Kendo	TBC
			Choir	
Annual Base Program Activities (Non-Visit)				
Annual "state of the city" letter	X	X	X	X
Exchanges of cities' annual reports and city plans	X	X	X	X
SCAC Year in Review Summary	X	X	X	X
Community Engagement	X	X	X	X
Activities	X	X	X	X
Relationship Activities				
Anniversary Milestones	Wakayama (50 years)			
	Qingdao (15 years)			
City Council/Delegation Visits			to be scheduled	
Activity Plan Relationship Review				X
Future Twinnings				
Explore new Sister City Relationship	X	X	X	X

Outbound Activity

Budget Summary

	2023	2024	2025	2026
--	------	------	------	------

Annual Base Program Activities

Education	\$17,000	\$22,000	\$14,000	\$22,000
Active Living	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Arts	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$23,000	\$15,000
Community Engagement	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000

Relationship Activities

Anniversary Milestones*	TBA			
-------------------------	-----	--	--	--

Administration

Administration Costs	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
----------------------	----------	----------	----------	----------

SUBTOTAL (year total)	\$71,000	\$71,000	\$71,000	\$71,000
------------------------------	----------	----------	----------	----------

GRAND TOTAL			\$284,000	
--------------------	--	--	------------------	--

*Official celebration plans in separate report to Mayor & Council

Annual Base Program Activities

Visits

Education

Student Exchanges/Visits

<p>GP - 28</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>inbound & outbound</p> <p>Students</p>	<p>✓ Student exchanges/visits include opportunities to inbound/outbound to sister cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue annual exchanges with Wakayama, Japan • Explore school visits to Montreal (Pierrefonds) 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outbound visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$500 per student participant ○ up to maximum \$10,000 for each annual student exchange • Inbound visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$200 per student participant ○ up to maximum \$4,000 for each annual student exchange <p>NOTE: Additional funding sources list provided to requestors (see appendix)</p>
---	--	--

Active Living

Sport Exchanges

<p>GP - 29</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>up to 2 activities annually inbound & outbound</p> <p>Adult Youth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sport exchanges open to ALL age groups ✓ Competitions or Skills Clinics ✓ Schedule of Inbound & Outbound activities to be confirmed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inbound activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2025: Richmond Hockey Jamboree • Outbound activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2025: Kendo Club ◦ July/August 2026: Xiamen Youth FIFA Football 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outbound visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ \$500 per athlete ◦ up to maximum \$10,000 for each athletic exchange • Inbound visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ \$200 per athlete ◦ up to maximum \$4,000 for each athletic exchange <p>NOTE: Additional funding sources list provided to requestors (see appendix)</p>
--	--	--

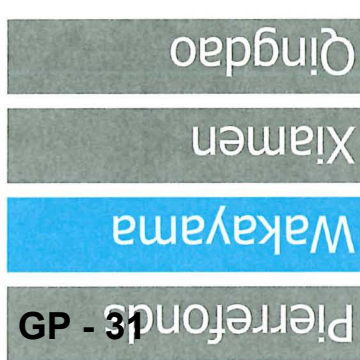
Active Living

Hockey Jamboree: 2023 (virtual) | 2025 (in person)

<p>GP - 30</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>virtual (2023) & inbound (2025) activity</p> <p>Youth</p>	<p>✓ Hockey Jamboree to discuss / practice player skills development with sister/friendship cities in virtual format (2023) & in person format (2025)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: virtual Zoom workshop to discuss respective minor hockey systems (from Intro Hockey to the NHL) • 2025: in-person Hockey Jamboree in Richmond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Jamboree to include 1) mixing all the players up and form new teams AND 2) a skills program (hockey school) 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 (virtual) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ up to \$3,000 for video taping • 2025 (Inbound) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ up to maximum \$10,000 for jamboree <p>NOTE: Additional funding sources list provided to requestors (see appendix)</p>
---	---	---

Performing Arts

NEW! Richmond Youth Honour Choir (RYHC)


 <p>GP - 31 Pierrefonds Wakayama Xiamen Qingdao</p> <p>outbound activity</p> <p>Youth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Choir exchanges include opportunities to inbound/outbound to sister cities<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2025: Wakayama✓ Choir available for participation in delegate visits <p>More details about RYHC can be found at https://ryhc.org/</p>	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outbound visit<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ \$500 per participant○ up to maximum \$10,000 for each exchange <p>NOTE: Additional funding sources list provided to requestors (see appendix)</p>
---	--	---

Annual Base Program Activities

Non-Visits

Education

Non-visit Activities

<p>✓</p>  <p>up to 2 activities annually</p> <p>Students</p>	<p>Non-visit activities to engage students & teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot sharing of lesson plans with educator in sister city • Pen Pal Exchanges - Pierrefonds & Qingdao elementary school level • Information Exchanges Artwork Exchanges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Exploring Sustainability activities • Pierrefonds: Postal Art Poetry 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to maximum \$3,000 annually <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ cover costs of supplies and shipping costs
---	---	--

Education

2023 Japan Bowl®

<p>GP - 34</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>Students</p>	<p>✓ Secondary school competition around Japanese culture sponsored in part by the Government of Japan, local Japan Embassy and Nikkei Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Target: Richmond students who are in the Japanese Language Program• Sister City Program to present talk on sister city relationship with Wakayama <p>Event website: https://www.ietaabc.ca/news/2022-metro-vancouver-japan-bowl/</p> <p>Video of event - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g1G-SzFc28E</p>	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Giveaways• In-kind contribution• Team registration fees
--	--	--

Art & Culture

Richmond Public Library - Book Club

<p>GP - 35</p> <p>Pierrefonts</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>1 program annually inbound & outbound</p> <p>All</p>	<p>Launch various programs to coordinate sharing of information with sister city libraries with various target audiences from young children to seniors. The activity plan would be to continue or expand on successful activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ One Book, up to Five Cities adult book club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: Wakayama Public Library to recommend book ✓ StoryWalk® young children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer sample stories to libraries in our sister/friendship cities ✓ Commemorative Milestone Anniversary Bookmarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023: share with Wakayama & Qingdao Public Library 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sister Cities to participate in Richmond Public Library book club program • Bookmarks: printing & distribution
--	---	--

Art & Culture

NEW! Take & Make It!

<p>✓</p> <p>Pierrefonts GP - 36</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>City Events & School Activities</p> <p>Adult Youth</p>	<p>Take & Make crafts for all ages with a cultural inspiration from our sister/friendship cities to be used with schools, at City events (Culture Days) and as giveaways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• QR code business cards to share instructions on how to make craft<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Paper folding - fans & origami○ Calligraphy - Chinese & Japanese Shūji○ Canada Day crafts○ Koinobori kite making○ Chinese knot tying○ Teru Teru Bozu (Japanese Sunshine Doll) <p>Culture Days website City of Richmond - Culture Days:</p>	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printing of instructions• Supplies
---	---	---

Annual Base Program Activities

Information Exchange

Information Exchange

About Richmond

- ✓ Build a toolkit of information requested by our sister/friendship cities from richmond.ca website & from Tourism Richmond
 - Topics
 - Brief introductory to Richmond
 - Population - Stats Canada data source
 - Promotional videos
 - Photos including aerial view
 - Educational Institutions
 - Sustainability Practices
 - Other sister/friendship cities

Budget Breakdown:

- no cost



as requested

Updated annually

Information Exchange

Speaker Series

<p>Pierrefonds GP - 39</p>	<p>Wakayama</p>	<p>Qingdao</p>
<p>Xiamen</p>	<p>1+ sessions annually</p>	<p>Adult Youth</p>
<p>Launch interactive sessions with sister/friendship cities to promote sharing of information utilizing new technology at RPL. The activity plan would be to continue or expand on successful activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Let's Go! virtual tours of sister/friendship cities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live or prerecorded sessions via Zoom of local attractions, parks, cultural events, museums and libraries ✓ Speakers Series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations on cultural customs, cuisine & crafts ✓ Virtual Sister/Friendship City Youth Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students chat with youth in French, Japanese & Chinese to learn about each other and each other's culture 		
<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speakers Fee: estimate between \$500 - \$4,000 		

Information Exchange

Community Groups / Advisory Committees

<p>GP - 40</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>as requested Virtually</p> <p>All</p>	<p>✓ Knowledge sharing between like groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial thoughts<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Advisory Committees○ City Staff○ Community Groups○ Community Partners	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• no cost
--	---	--

Annual Base Program Activities

Community Engagement

Community Engagement

Participation in City Events / Activities

<p>GP - 42</p>	<p>Annual up to 2 City Events</p>	<p>Pierrefonds Wakayama Xiamen Qingdao</p>	<p>Sister City Advisory Committee members participate in activities to increase Community Engagement and sharing of experiences with our sister/friendship cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Steveston Salmon Festival Activation ✓ City Events - exhibitor booth ✓ Commemorate the Wakayama Sister City Garden ✓ Sister City Program theme Geocaching (2024) 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Event booth decorations ● T-shirts for participants ● Handouts for attendees
-----------------------	--	--	---	--

Community Engagement

Walk Richmond - community walks

<p>Pierrefonds GP - 43</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p>	<p>Partner with Walk Richmond to coordinate sister city community walks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pierrefonds walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting at Pierrefonds Sister City Garden at City Hall • Ending at Pierrefonds Garden by Minoru Chapel ✓ Wakayama walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to Pierrefonds walk • Garry Point Park to Britannia Shipyards National Historic Site ✓ Xiamen & Qingdao walk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen Neighbourhood Park (TBC) 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giveaways
---	--	--

Community Engagement

Photo Exhibition

<p>GP - 44</p> <p>Pierrefonds</p> <p>Wakayama</p> <p>Xiamen</p> <p>Qingdao</p> <p>up to 2 activities annually inbound</p>	<p>✓ Photo shows at Cultural Centre to showcase sister/friendship cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upper Rotunda - 15 photos highlighting city ▪ Atrium - 8 photos highlighting theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2023: Public Art ○ 2024: Fire Halls (to be confirmed) ○ 2025: to be confirmed ○ 2026: to be confirmed 	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$1,000 annually for photo development
--	--	--

Community Engagement

Richmond Museum

<p>✓</p>	<p>Share artefacts collected from Sister City Program at Richmond Museum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• July 2023 - Wakayama• February 2024 - Sister City Program	<p>Budget Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No cost
----------	---	--



Annual Base Program Activities

Milestone Anniversaries

Milestone Celebrations

Occurring in 2023

<p>Pierrefonds - GP - 47</p>	<p>Wakayama</p>	<p>Qingdao</p>
<p>Xiamen</p>	<p>Qingdao: 15 year anniversary (April)</p>	<p>Wakayama: 50 year anniversary (July)</p>
<p>✓ Two major milestones will be celebrated in 2023</p>		
<p>• Official celebration plans in separate report to Mayor & Council</p>		
<p>• Qingdao: 15 year anniversary (April)</p>		
<p>• Wakayama: 50 year anniversary (July)</p>		
<p>Budget Breakdown:</p>		
<p>• TBA</p>		

2 milestone celebrations

Milestone Celebrations

Street Banner Contest

Pierrefonds - GP 48

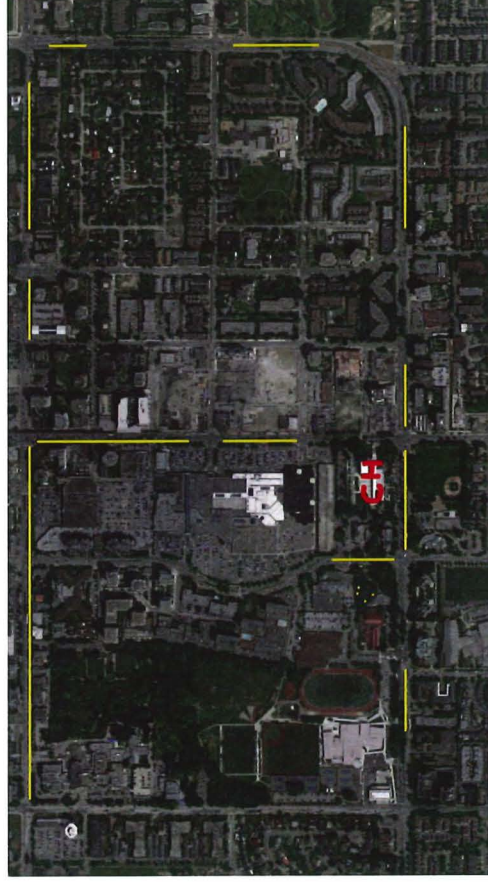
Wakayama

Xiamen

Qingdao

2023

- ✓ 2023 Street Banner IN Richmond to be designed by individual IN Wakayama sharing a photo of a landmark in Wakayama
 - around City Hall



Budget Breakdown:

- estimate around ~\$1.5K

Community Spaces

Community Tribute Space/Site

Community Tribute Space/Site

Create a community tribute to sister city

Pierrefonds - 50 GP

Wakayama

Xiamen

Qingdao

- ✓ Recommendation for a commemorative space (i.e. garden or public art piece) to recognize the sister city relationship with Wakayama
 - Location: to be recommended by city staff
 - Installation by 2026 for next MOU signing with City of Wakayama
 - Tone: elegance garden / public art piece or garden structure such as pergola
 - Committee to collaborate with local Japanese community groups
 - Ask to Staff to further investigate

Annual Sister City Program Activities

Administration

Administration

Operational & Relationship Activities

- ✓ Annual administrative costs
- ✓ Letters between Mayors - annual "state of the city" letter
- ✓ Exchanges of City Annual Reports

Budget Breakdown:

- **\$11,000** annual administrative costs

Administration

Project 2024

GP - 53

Richmond Sister City Advisory Committee will celebrate **50 years** on February 11, 2024. In order to continue building meaningful connections with our global community, the committee must do our part to future proof our legacy and set up processes for the future. Steps to be taken:

- ✓ Digital File & Photo Management including archival process
- ✓ Website Enhancements
- ✓ Document activity timelines for each city
- ✓ Document names of current & past committee members
- ✓ Our extended family - establish & strengthen ties with sister city committees around the world sharing best practices

Celebration in February 2024

- Photo Exhibition
- Update committee logo used for online & print communications

Appendix

Looking to the Past

Report adopted by Council, February 11, 1974, Resolution 157.

The Mayor and Aldermen,
Corporation of the Township
of Richmond,
Richmond Hill,
Ontario, etc.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As Council was aware, Richmond has teamed with Yamaguchi, Quebec and Wakayama, Japan, the latter being formalized during 1973. The teaming with these Cities, but particularly with Wakayama, has resulted in a great deal of interest and we are now getting into the position of "reaping a cornucopia" of our citizens in this regard.

This is particularly true in the field of organized exchange of our citizens, young people in general, and to a certain extent the children by various means at each community.

Wakayama has set up a Committee called "The Sister City Twinning Committee" and this is generally composed of members of our community, including a large number of non-political citizens, such as members of the Japanese Medical Association, Religious Institutions, businessmen and ordinary citizens. The Wakayama Committee functions under the leadership of a Mr. Imai, and he is very active in promoting sister city relationships.

It is therefore the recommendation to this Council that a similar-type Committee, to be called "The Sister City Twinning Committee" be set up. It is suggested that Mr. Jim Harvey be named as Chairman. It is further recommended that Mr. Harvey and our Chief Administrative Officer be empowered to solicit persons to be members of this Committee, with a particular view towards the promotion of good communication of our citizens. It is further suggested that the Committee be given the authority to call from time to time on the progress of formulating the Committee, and subsequently on the activities of the Committee so that Council and the public will be fully informed of the scope of the twinning activities.

I would earnestly recommend the adoption of this report.


J. B. BAKER
Mayor

Since inception of the Sister City Advisory Committee in February 1974, the objectives of the Sister City Program (SCP) remain the same:

- Carry out a continuing program of cultural exchanges
- Emphasize student and athletic exchange for the benefit of youth
- Promotion of better understanding of our cultures and ways of life

The addition in 2019 is SCP is inclusive of ALL ages to participate in activities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SISTER CITY TWINNING COMMITTEE

1. To coordinate and organize exchanges between our Sister Cities, Plattsburgh, Quebec, and Wakayama, Japan.
2. To carry out a continuing programme of cultural exchanges for the benefit of our communities and citizens.
3. To emphasize student and athletic exchange for the benefit of our younger people.
4. To foster economic ties with our Sister Cities, wherever possible.
5. To continue to enhance our mutual friendship through the promotion of better understanding of our cultures and ways of life.

Funding Sources

	Funding Source & Website URL
1	Kiwanis Club https://richmond.kiwanis.org/
2	KidSport https://kidsportcanada.ca/british-columbia/
3	Canadian Tire https://corp.canadiantire.ca/English/community/default.spx
4	TELUS https://www.telus.com/en/social-impact/giving-back/community-grants?INTCMP=community-impact_home_cta_to_community-grants
5	Viasport BC funded by Province of BC viasport.ca/grants
6	Community Gaming grants for Recreation, Parks and Culture, Events and Celebration funded by Prov. of BC. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/gaming-fundraising/gaming-grants/community-gaming-grants
7	Civic Info BC has a grants database of federal, provincial grants https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/grants
8	Government of Canada Youth Exchanges Grants - in Canada only https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/exchanges-canada/funding-organizations.html
9	Richmond Rotary Clubs
10.	
11.	
12	
13.	
14.	
15.	