



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: January 22, 2020

From: Todd Gross
Director, Parks Services

File: 11-7400-01/2020-Vol
01

Re: **Kaiwo Maru Tall Ship Recruitment – Proposed Delegation to Japan National Institute for Sea Training**

Staff Recommendation

1. That a delegation be sent to Japan in April 2020 to pursue recruitment of the Kaiwo Maru as outlined in the staff report titled “Kaiwo Maru Tall Ship Recruitment – Proposed Delegation to Japan National Institute for Sea Training,” dated January 22, 2020, from the Director, Parks Services; and
2. That delegation travel costs of up to \$40,000 be funded from the Council Contingency account.

Todd Gross
Director, Parks Services
(604-244-1275)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol Unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

At the General Purposes Committee meeting held on December 16, 2019, staff received the following referral:

That the City make plans to pursue having the Japanese ship Kaiwo Maru as part of the ship recruitment plan for future events.

The purpose of this report is to respond to this referral.

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.

Analysis

The Kaiwo Maru is a sail training vessel operated by the Japanese Agency of Maritime Education and Training for Seafarers (JMETS), a government organization that trains future navigators and engineers. Its home port is the National Institute for Sea Training located in Yokohama, Japan. At 361-feet long, 182-feet high, and with 36 sails totalling nearly 30,000 square feet, the Kaiwo Maru is one of the largest tall ships in the world (Attachment 1).

The Kaiwo Maru's complement is comprised of approximately 200 people, including 106 cadets. The voyage takes one month to transit across the Pacific Ocean from Japan to Richmond. Richmond hosted this vessel in 2005 and then again in 2017 as part of the City's Canada 150 celebrations, where an estimated 75,000 people visited the Ships to Shore – *King of the Sea* Festival over three days.

Proposed Recruitment Strategy

The past visits of the Kaiwo Maru were successfully secured as a result of in-person meetings held between City officials and naval officers from JMETS at the Japanese National Institute for Sea Training, which is where decisions about ship travel and scheduling are made. Given the relationship-based nature of conducting business in Japan and the success of the past strategy, it is proposed that the City once again send a delegation to Japan to persuade the Kaiwo Maru to visit Richmond in 2023. As Class A tall ship vessels typically book their itineraries at least two years out, it is suggested that the Kaiwo Maru be invited to visit Richmond in 2023 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Richmond's Sister City relationship with Wakayama, Japan.

In addition to meeting with officials from JMETS at the Japanese National Institute for Sea Training in Yokohama, it is proposed that the delegation attend the Nagasaki Tall Ships Festival (April 16-20, 2020), to which the City has received an invitation in commemoration of the event's 20th year anniversary milestone. As the Kaiwo Maru is one of the festival's signature vessels, the event poses a unique and timely opportunity to meet with the ship's captain and crew to ensure clear communication and to coordinate logistics and planning. The event also poses an opportunity to meet with other international tall ships, which could potentially result in the recruitment of additional Class A vessels to visit Richmond in the future.

While in Nagasaki, it is proposed that the delegation make a short visit to Kuchinotsu, the birth place of Manzo Nagano, who was a prominent salmon fisherman on the Fraser River and the first known Japanese immigrant to Canada.

Wakayama Sister City 50th Anniversary

In 2023, Richmond will commemorate the 50th anniversary of its Sister City relationship with Wakayama, Japan. While in Japan, it is proposed that the delegation meet with the appropriate Wakayama officials to commence discussions regarding potential future anniversary celebrations in both Richmond and in Japan. Being in Wakayama will also present an opportunity for the delegation to meet with the Mayor of Wakayama to pay respects on behalf of Richmond City Council.

As part of the visit to Wakayama, it is proposed that the delegation visit the Canada Museum in Mio, a small fishing village in the Wakayama prefecture, which has strong historical connections to Richmond. The late 19th century saw the migration of many Mio residents to Steveston, beginning with Gihei Kuno in 1887, after whom the Kuno Garden at Garry Point Park is named. Kuno's fishing success was a catalyst for many other immigrants from Wakayama coming to Steveston to fish the large salmon runs. The Canada Museum houses many artefacts from early Steveston pioneers.

Proposed Delegation and Travel Expenses

The proposed delegation is comprised of three to four people, including:

- 1 to 2 members of Council;
- A translator; and
- A City staff member (as assigned by the CAO).

The total estimated travel budget is \$30,000 to \$40,000, depending on the size of the delegation, which includes flights, accommodations, per diems, ground transportation, ceremonial gifting, and translator fees.

Proposed Itinerary

The proposed itinerary is based upon the City’s attendance at the Nagasaki Tall Ships Festival, in which many prominent international vessels will be participating from April 16 to 20, 2020.

Date	Proposed Itinerary
April 11	Depart YVR.
April 12	Arrive in Tokyo.
April 13	Travel to Yokohama – Meet with JMETS at National Institute for Sea Training.
April 14	Travel to Wakayama – Meet with the Mayor of Wakayama (Sister City).
April 15	Visit Canada Museum in Mio, Wakayama. Travel to Nagasaki.
April 16	Attend Nagasaki Tall Ships Opening Ceremony. Meet with captain and crew of the Kaiwo Maru. Meet with international vessels (Japan, Korea, Russia).
April 17	Visit Kuchinotsu, Nagasaki (hometown of Manzo Nagano). Travel to Tokyo.
April 18	Depart Tokyo. Arrive in YVR.

Financial Impact

The total estimated travel budget for the delegation is \$30,000 to \$40,000, depending on the size of the delegation. This includes flights, accommodations, per diems, ground transportation, ceremonial gifting, and translator fees.

It is proposed that the delegation costs of up to \$40,000 be funded from the Council Contingency account.

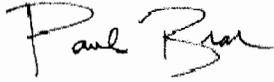
Conclusion

The Kaiwo Maru drew tens of thousands of visitors to Steveston in 2005 and 2017. The successful recruitment of the Kaiwo Maru, one of the world’s largest Class A tall ships, would result in another signature maritime event in Richmond’s history. As preparations for the month long trans-Pacific navigation from Japan to Richmond require at least two year’s planning, it is proposed that the City send a delegation to meet with officials at the Japanese National Institute for Sea Training to persuade the Kaiwo Maru to visit Richmond in 2023.

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While in Japan, it is proposed that the delegation attend the Nagasaki Tall Ships Festival to coordinate logistics with the captain of the Kaiwo Maru, meet with captains of other international vessels, and also meet with officials from Wakayama to begin planning for the 50th anniversary of the Sister City relationship in 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Brar". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Paul Brar
Manager, Parks Programs
(604-244-1275)

Att. 1: Kaiwo Maru

KAIWO MARU: KING OF THE SEA

