



Report to: Development Services Committee

Meeting Date: June 7, 2016

SUBJECT: Delegation to Nordlingen, Germany
PREPARED BY: Don Taylor, ext. 5972

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the report titled "Delegation to Nordlingen, Germany" be received; and
- 2) That the City authorize Councillor Burke and Councillor Rea to travel to Nordlingen, Germany, to officially represent the City at celebration events related to Nordlingen's traditional Historic Wall Festival, and the 15th Anniversary of the Alliance Agreement to formalize cultural and heritage ties between the Cities of Markham and Nordlingen, and
- 3) That Council approve an expenditure of \$2,200.00, to be funded from the Culture & Economic Development Department's Business Travel Account #6109985201, to cover the costs to be incurred for one Councillor, and
- 4) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's authorization for Councillors Burke and Rea to travel to Nordlingen, Germany to officially represent the City at celebration events from Thursday, September 8, 2016 to Monday, September 12, 2016, related to Nordlingen's traditional Historic Wall Festival, and the 15th Anniversary of the Alliance Agreement to formalize cultural and heritage ties between the Cities of Markham and Nordlingen, and for the City to contribute \$2,200.00 toward the cost of the trip.

BACKGROUND:

On June 26, 2001 the (then) Town of Markham entered into an Alliance Agreement with the City of Nordlingen, Germany, to formalize cultural and heritage ties. Nordlingen is where William Berczy and 220 German immigrants originated. The Berczy group settled in and founded what is now the City of Markham, in 1794.

The City of Nordlingen is planning a celebration of the Alliance Agreement, along with Nordlingen's traditional Historic Wall Festival. There will be a number of events, including speeches and a parade. Events will take place over five days, from Thursday, September 8, 2016 to Monday, September 12, 2016.

Mayor Scarpitti is unable to attend the celebration, however two Councillors, Valerie Burke and Karen Rea, and other Markham community representatives have made arrangements to attend. Other attendees, who organized the trip, include: Town Crier John Webster, Town Historian Lorne Smith, and Mr. Heinz Nitschke. Mr. Nitschke is a

long time former resident of Markham, who represented the Town of Markham at Nordlingen's Historic City Wall Festival in September, 2007.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

The celebration of the Alliance Agreement between Markham and Nordlingen, and Nordlingen's traditional Historic Wall Festival, are significant events. Considerable planning has been done by the City of Nordlingen to make the celebration very special. Staff recommends that Councillors Burke and Rea be authorized to attend as official representatives of the City of Markham at this significant celebration of the City of Markham.

Staff further recommends that an expenditure of \$2,200.00 be approved, to cover the cost to be incurred by one of the Councillors.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The cost to send one Councillor will be approximately \$2200.00 (\$1,200.00 airfare + \$500.00 accommodation (Sept. 8 to 11), + \$500.00 food (Sept. 8 to 12). This cost is to be funded from within the 2016 Business Travel account 610-998-5201.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS


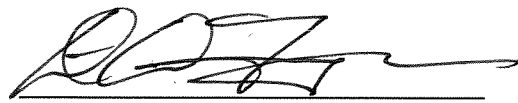
None

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Markham 2020 Economic Strategy

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Finance
Culture & Economic Development
Legal Services

RECOMMENDED BY:
Andy Taylor
Don Taylor

ATTACHMENT: Letter of invitation from Lord Mayor of Nordlingen

DER OBERBÜRGERMEISTER
DER STADT NÖRDLINGEN



86715 NÖRDLINGEN
Postfach 1543
Tel. 09081/84-101
Fax 09081/84-102
E-Mail ob@noerdlingen.de

Mr. Frank Scarpitti
Mayor of Markham
Anthony Roman Centre
101 Town Centre Boulevard
MARKHAM
ONTARIO L3R 9W3
KANADA

„Historisches Stadtmauerfest“ (Historic Wall Festival)

Dear Colleague,

Dear Frank,

our Sister City Relationship is especially enhanced by meetings on the occasion of outstanding events. Therefore, I am very pleased to inform you about an event in 2016 as follows:

Our traditional Historic Wall Festival will take place from September 9th to 11th, 2016 in the car-free Town Centre. I would appreciate it if a delegation from Markham would visit us. Especially your attendance would be very welcomed. Due to the limited accommodation facilities we hope for your understanding that it is not possible for more than 10 people from every Sister City to visit during the Historic Wall Festival.

I am sure that the “Historisches Stadtmauerfest” would strengthen our community bonds. Your thoughts on the above would be most valuable to us.

Yours sincerely

Hermann Faul
Lord Mayor