



Building Markham's Future Together
Journey to Excellence

Request Received to provide Municipal Support for a Chinese Memorial Garden in Markham

Presentation provided to clarify Staff Report
tabled at December 10 General Committee Meeting



SILVER RECIPIENT 2010
ORGANIZATIONAL QUALITY
& HEALTHY WORKPLACE

Slide 1



Overview

- Federation of Chinese Canadians in Markham (FCCM) contacted City staff this September
- FCCM proposes to develop the first Suzhou-style Chinese garden in Markham to commemorate Dr. Norman Bethune
- City staff met with FCCM to determine the state of its proposal and requirements
- FCCM seeks municipal support in the form of a contribution of the land on which the proposed garden will be situated
- Concurrently, FCCM is seeking Provincial funding for the project



Building Markham's Future Together
Journey to Excellence

FCCM

- A not-for-profit organization that celebrated its 20th anniversary this year
- Mandate to provide services to the Chinese Community and integration of Chinese Canadians into mainstream Canada
- FCCM has four main divisions:
 1. Markham Chinese Seniors Association
 2. Chinese Canadian Sports and Recreation Club of Markham
 3. Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Markham
 4. Markham Chinese Cultural Centre
- Organizer of the annual Taste of Asia event. Event was one of the Top 100 Festivals and Events in Ontario in 2011 and received \$15,000 Celebrate Markham grant in 2012.



Taste of Asia, 2011



SILVER RECIPIENT 2010
ORGANIZATIONAL QUALITY
& HEALTHY WORKPLACE



Dr. Henry Norman Bethune

- Born in Gravenhurst, Ontario, Dr. Bethune was a famous Canadian surgeon and medical innovator such as mobile blood transfusion in a war setting
- From 1938 until his death in 1939, he served the Chinese army as a doctor in the Second Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945)
- Chairman Mao Zedong recognized Dr. Bethune as a national hero and devoted an essay about Dr. Bethune that was a required reading
- In today's China, Dr. Bethune's contributions continue to generate goodwill for Canada.



Dr. Bethune operating in China



Suzhou Gardens

- Suzhou is a city with over 2,500 years of history and situated in the Jiangsu Province of China. A Suzhou garden is intimate, simple, built for the enjoyment of a private family and “seeks to recreate natural landscapes in miniature”
- Nine of its classical gardens (from 0.2 to 5.2 hectares) were added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1997 and 2000

Mountain Villa with Embracing Beauty (0.2 ha)



Garden of Cultivation (0.33 ha)



Project Overview

- **Project Proponent :** FCCM
- **Project Concept:** Create and operate an authentic Suzhou-style garden designed to commemorate Dr. Bethune
- **Project Governance:** FCCM is setting up a charitable foundation to be responsible for all aspects of the project (design, construction, facility operations, fundraising and administration). Markham's role is one of being a Project Contributor.
- **Project Contributors:** Potential contributors identified by FCCM include Province of Ontario, Overseas Government (Jiangsu Province), City of Markham, and Private Sector.

FCCM is interested in having Markham contribute the project land, no more than one hectare in size and wholly owned by Markham. Specific location has not been finalized.

Project Overview

- **Project Timing:** FCCM expects to have a provincial decision in Q1 of 2013 and optimistic to start project in 2013 or when fundraising is completed
- **Project Benefits:**
 - Tourism – Provides a destination attraction
 - Cultural Awareness – Explores cultural heritage of our Chinese Canadian citizens
 - Societal Cohesion – Strengthens multi-cultural understanding and harmony
 - Canadian History – Highlights Dr. Bethune contributions abroad
 - International Relations – Cultivates relationship with China



Building Markham's Future Together
Journey to **Excellence**

Classical Gardens in North America



Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical
Chinese Garden, Vancouver, BC



New York Chinese Scholar's Garden,
New York, NY



Montreal Botanical Garden (The
Chinese Garden), Montreal, QC



Lan Su Chinese Garden, Portland, OR



SILVER RECIPIENT 2010
ORGANIZATIONAL QUALITY
& HEALTHY WORKPLACE

Conclusions reached by Staff

- Project proposed by FCCM is a good fit for Markham in that it:
 - Reflects the cultural composition of the community;
 - Supports community and organization aspirations in the areas of inclusion, sustainability, community engagement, and city/capacity building; and
 - Adds to its overall quality of life
- If approved by Council, City of Markham proposed participation is limited to the contribution of land and subject to the development of an agreement with FCCM that will specify and limit the City's responsibilities and liabilities



Building Markham's Future Together
Journey to Excellence

Thank You!



SILVER RECIPIENT 2010
ORGANIZATIONAL QUALITY
& HEALTHY WORKPLACE

Slide 10