



Report to: GENERAL COMMITTEE

Date Report Authored: June 25, 2012

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**SUBJECT:** Sweden's Smart Communities Tour  
September 8-15, 2012 in Stockholm Sweden  
**PREPARED BY:** Peter Loukes, Environmental Services

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That authorization be granted for two staff (one from Environmental Services Department of Community and Fire Services Commission and one staff from Development Services Commission) to attend the Smart Energy Communities Tour in Stockholm, Sweden in September 2012;
2. And that expenses be paid in accordance to Town's Policy from the 2012 Operating Budget;
3. And further 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 obtain approval for Peter Loukes, Director, Environmental Services, one representative from Development Services, and Regional Councillor Joe Li to attend the Smart Communities Tour in Stockholm Sweden in September 2012.

**BACKGROUND:**

At a recent meeting in Markham organized by Regional Councillor Joe Li staff and developer representatives met with the Trade Commissioner and Honorary Consul for Sweden to see the urban sustainability concepts being used in Sweden. Of particular interest was the ENVAC vacuum system for waste management; however they also touched on several other areas such as architecture, energy, landscape, and water recycling. As Markham prepares to build its city centre and intensify the development and strategic redevelopment of some areas of the community, the concepts of sustainable development are a priority.

Subsequent to that meeting the Embassy of Sweden contacted Regional Councillor Li inviting the Councillor and staff to attend the Smart Communities Tour in Sweden in September. The Smart Communities Tour has been organized by the Swedish Trade Council, in cooperation with the QUEST (Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow) and the Canadian Urban Institute. The tour will give delegates an opportunity to see how various communities in Sweden are accelerating their sustainability strategies by integrating the energy activities in buildings, the supply and treatment of water, transportation and goods movement, and the management of waste and energy infrastructure.

The tour will start in Stockholm and travel through to Denmark. Highlights of the tour include:

**Hammarby Sjostad** – A redeveloped brown field industrial area of Stockholm that is now home to over 10,000 apartment units built with comprehensive environmental targets.

**Stockholm Royal Seaport** – Another brown field site in Stockholm that is one of the largest city planning projects in Europe with an ambitious goal to be fossil fuel free.

**Tekniska Verken** - Swedish Utility company that operates in the electricity, water, district heating/cooling, waste management, broadband, and biogas sectors

**Southern Scania Waste Management Company (SYSAV)** – Owned by the City of Malmo and 13 neighbouring municipalities (665,000 residents), SYSAV landfills only 5% of their waste. 95% of waste is either recycled or goes to their Energy from Waste facility

There will also be several opportunities to meet with industry and government representatives.

The itinerary of this tour will give staff a great opportunity to see urban sustainable concepts in use and will be helpful in the planning and operations of such techniques in Markham's community development projects.

It is recommended that one staff member from both the Development Service Commission and the Community and Fire Services Commission should attend.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE:**

Approximate expenses (in Canadian Funds) to attend this event:

ITEM	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Tour Cost	\$3,900/person	Ground transport, accommodations, some meals
Air Fare	\$2,500/person	Return flight
<b>Approximate Total</b>	<b>\$6,400/person</b>	<b>In Canadian Funds</b>
Per Diem		<b>Paid as per Town Policy</b>
Transportation cost		<b>Paid as per Town Policy</b>

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

Made in Markham Growth Plan

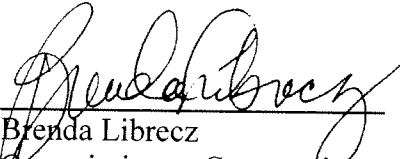
Environmental Leadership

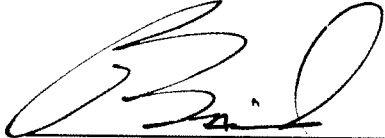
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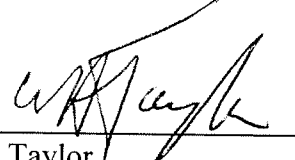
**BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:**

Nor applicable

**RECOMMENDED  
BY:**

  
Brenda Librecz  
Commissioner, Community and  
Fire Services

  
Jim Baird  
Commissioner, Development  
Services

  
Andy Taylor  
Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT** – Letter of Invitation to the Smart Energy Communities Tour





EMBASSY OF SWEDEN

May 31, 2012

OTTAWA

Mr. Joe Li, Councillor  
TOWN OF MARKHAM  
Markham Civic Centre,  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
MARKHAM, ON, L3R 9W3

Dear Mr. Li,

I understand from our representatives in Toronto, Mr. Kristofer Fröjd, Trade Commissioner, and Mr. Lars Henriksson, Honorary Consul, that you have expressed interest in bringing a group of representatives from the Town of Markham, Region of York and developers in Markham and York Region to Sweden to study urban sustainability in our country. Messrs. Fröjd and Henriksson have also told me of the meeting you arranged recently at the Markham Civic Centre with a number of participants from these groups. They were very impressed by the attendance and interest among the delegates.

As Ambassador for Sweden to Canada, I am delighted to welcome you and a group from Markham/York Region to Sweden to study what we are doing in the field of urban sustainability.

I believe you are aware of the study tour to Sweden that the Swedish Trade Council and the Embassy are organizing September 8 – 15, 2012 in cooperation with QUEST and the Canadian Urban Institute. It is similar to the tour I understand you participated in a few years ago. This tour will give a good picture of various initiatives in Sweden, from larger cities like Stockholm and Malmö to smaller and mid-sized towns like Linköping and Växjö.

However, I do realize that you may have some special requests that are not covered in the programme of the planned tour. Here, we can look at various options, such as having your group participate in parts of the program, e.g. a three day tour including Stockholm and Linköping, or your group making a side-tour one day, e.g. visiting Göteborg instead of Växjö. The participation fee will most likely be in the same range as the one for the 'general' tour above. A third alternative is a tour, completely tailor-made for you and your group.

Kristofer and Lars would be delighted to sit down with you and discuss the various options in order to find the best alternative for you. Based on those

Postal Address:  
377 Dalhousie Street, suite 305  
OTTAWA ON K1N 9N8

Telephone:  
+1 613 244 8200

E-mail:  
ambassaden.ottawa@foreign.ministry.se

Visitors' address:  
377 Dalhousie Street, suite 305  
OTTAWA ON K1N 9N8

Fax:  
+1 613 244 8200

May 31, 2012

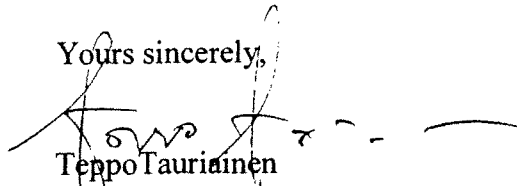
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discussions, they will also be able to give you a price for the tour. Regardless, please rest assure that we will do our utmost to create an interesting programme for you.

I would be happy to meet with you in connection with my next trip to Toronto on 8-9 July to learn more about Markham and York Region and to discuss your interest in urban sustainable solutions. Please coordinate with Consul Lars Henriksson if this would be of interest to you.

My sincere thanks for your interest in Sweden and our activities in the field of urban sustainability.

Yours sincerely,



Teppo Tauriainen  
Ambassador

Enclosures: Invitation & Program, Study Tour to Sweden, September 8 – 15, 2012

**REGISTRATION FORM:**

**INTEGRATED ENERGY SYSTEMS – SWEDEN'S SMART ENERGY COMMUNITIES  
TOUR (CAD \$3 900\*)**

Please register your participation by June 18, 2012. Space is limited. Application is binding. The Swedish Trade Council's General conditions for participation in Joint Export Activities apply.

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Swedish Trade Council in Toronto, phone 416 922-8152, ext. 221 or by e-mail: [christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se](mailto:christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se)

\*Estimate, this tour includes all ground transportation in Sweden (coach and train), hotel in single accommodation, and most meals. *Return airfare to Sweden is not included with the price.*

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Contact information

Name:.....

Company:.....

Phone:.....

E-mail:.....

Please fill in the information above and return this form to Swedish Trade Council by either fax 416 929-8639 or by e-mail: [christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se](mailto:christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se)

Please feel free to contact us with your suggestions or questions:

Swedish Trade Council  
Christina Keighren  
[christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se](mailto:christina.keighren@swedishtrade.se)  
416 640-7476







*April 25, 2012 - Letter of Invitation*

## **INTEGRATED ENERGY SYSTEMS – AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR OF SWEDEN'S SMART ENERGY COMMUNITIES**

The Swedish Trade Council, in cooperation with the Embassy of Sweden, QUEST – Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow and the Swedish Energy Agency, has the pleasure of inviting you to participate in an educational tour to Sweden. Get inspired and come back informed about Smart Energy Communities and how their businesses, utilities and citizens are committed to sustainable building and transportation development.

**Sweden is an internationally recognized leader in integrated energy solutions through sustainable development.**

This tour will take participants during the week of September 8-15, 2012 to communities across Sweden that are accelerating their sustainability strategies by integrating the energy activities associated with buildings, the supply and treatment of water, transportation and goods movement, the management of waste and energy infrastructure.

Participants will have a weeklong opportunity to become immersed in the financial, regulatory, political and cultural environment that has enabled for rapid growth of integrated energy systems as part of a complete sustainable development.

Participants will learn more about:

- Government legislation, regulation and incentives for sustainable development
- Community involvement. Visit the greenest city in Europe, Växjö, and learn about their integrated energy systems, energy mix and university programs relating to entrepreneurship in the region.
- The Swedish utility sector through a workshop with representatives from the Swedish Energy Agency and the largest utility companies in Sweden.
- Intermodal transportation development and integrating "green" features into existing and new developments.
- Integration of fuels, technologies and services for meeting heating, cooling, and power needs through site visits to plants.

*"This particular tour opened my eyes to community infrastructure advancements in sustainable design for which Sweden seems to have a 20 year start over North America. We must learn from the Swedes".*

Peter Busby, Architect and Director,  
Busby Perkins + Will, Vancouver BC

This tour is for decision-makers in businesses, institutions, and government organizations, including regulators that focus on sustainable solutions for communities and provide integrated energy solutions. The tour will offer one on one opportunities to ask your respective counterparts in Sweden what it really takes to make integrated energy systems happen from a commercial, regulatory, financial and policy perspective. The tour will enable participants to go beyond the "idea" of integrated energy systems and focus on tactics

Participants will also have the benefit of engaging directly with Swedish utilities and the regulator involved with integrated energy activities and examine how sustainable transportation (with a focus on alternative fuels) is a key component of successful sustainable development planning. The tour will also explore how smaller and rural communities in Sweden are successfully developing local economic markets around alternative and renewable energy systems.

*"Thank you so much for organizing a first class tour of Sweden, and its leadership on waste, energy and sustainability. I learned an awful lot, and three of us did quite a successful radio interview on Saturday as a result."*

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Mayor,  
District of West Vancouver, BC

To support the transfer of knowledge and encourage active dialogue on solutions for advancing integrated energy systems in Canada, QUEST will be waiving the conference registration fees for its annual conference *Smart Energy Communities in Cold Climates* taking place from November 18-21, 2012 at the Winnipeg, Fairmount to registered study tour participants.

The Swedish Trade Council and the Swedish Energy Agency will be undertaking to organize opportunities throughout the year for business development between Sweden and Canada in the energy sector, including a Swedish Delegation to the Canadian District Energy Association's annual conference in June, Ottawa and I encourage you to look for upcoming events in your community.

Registration for the tour **closes on June 18, 2012 and space is limited.**

I look forward to having you join fellow leaders involved with integrated energy, such as Michael Harcourt, Chair of QUEST and former Premier of British Columbia and Mayor of Vancouver, and Fred Eisenberger, CEO of the Canadian Urban Institute and former Mayor of Hamilton on *Sweden's Smart Energy Communities* tour.

Sincerely,



Kristofer Fröjd,  
Swedish Trade Commissioner to Canada



Quality Urban Energy  
Systems of Tomorrow

