

AGENDA
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

meeting held
Wednesday, October 20, 2021
at 2:00 o'clock p.m.
via Zoom video conference

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Declaration of Conflict**

3. **Minutes**
Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held June 30, 2021 – **attached.**

4. **Business Items**
 - 4.1 International Relations Committee 2020 Annual Report – **attached.**

5. **Communications**
 - 5.1 E-mail from Yunnan Province, China to Mayor Drew Dilkens - Request for twinning – **attached.**

 - 5.2 E-mail regarding the City of Mannheim’s Lord Mayor Peter Kurz receiving the World Mayor International Award – **attached.**

 - 5.3 E-mail regarding the ranking of 66 Polish cities – The City of Lublin received the blue ribbon in the Europolis report – **attached**

 - 5.4 Report of the Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change entitled “International Urban & Regional Cooperation (IUC) – European Union – North America” - **attached**
E-mail from Stefanie Miller, International Affairs, City of Mannheim regarding the IUC Program – **attached.**

6. **New Business**

7. Date of Next Meeting
To be determined.

8. Adjournment

International Relations Committee

Meeting held June 30, 2021

A meeting of the International Relations Committee is held this day commencing at 3:30 o'clock p.m. via Zoom video conference, there being present the following members:

Councillor Fred Francis, Chair
Councillor Gary Kaschak
Councillor Ed Sleiman
Daniel Ableser
Jerry Barycki
Maria Belenkova
Ronnie Haidar
William Ma
L.T. Zhao

Regrets received from:

Councillor Fabio Costante
Steven Spagnuolo

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Sandra Gebauer, Council Assistant
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:31 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Declaration of Conflict

None disclosed.

3. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by W. Ma,

That the minutes of the International Committee of its meeting held March 23, 2021

BE ADOPTED as presented.

Carried.

4. Business Items

4.1 5th Annual Children's Virtual Art Exhibition – "WE ARE 1 WORLD"

S. Gebauer reports that the invitations have been sent to all of our Twin Cities as well as all of the participants from the 2020 virtual Children's Art Exhibition. She adds that feedback was received from last year's participants; a few of the Twin Cities have confirmed their participation, and approximately twelve entries have been received from local children. It appears to be another successful Children's Art Exhibit and the Committee will be apprised of the Twin Cities participation following the deadline of July 15, 2021.

Moved by M. Belenkova, seconded by L.T. Zhao,

That the update provided by the Council Assistant relating to the 5th Annual Children's Virtual Art Exhibition – "WE ARE 1 WORLD" **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried.

4.2 Letter from the Chair IRC – Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce Initiative

The Chair suggests that the letter prepared in 2021 on behalf of the IRC and the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce regarding an initiative to support local businesses in our sister cities be sent to the Twin Cities in September 2021.

Moved by Councillor Kaschak, seconded by M. Belenkova,

That the letter to be sent to the Twin Cities on behalf of the IRC and the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce regarding an initiative to support local businesses looking to expand their markets **BE SENT** to our sister cities in September 2021.

Carried.

5. Communications

5.1 Councillor Francis, on behalf of Mayor Dilkens attended the April 23, 2021 Virtual Coventry Twin Cities Summit and the Letter of Greetings from Coventry, England

Moved by Councillor Kaschak, seconded by D. Ableser,
That the communication regarding the attendance of Councillor Francis on behalf of Mayor Dilkens at the April 23, 2021 Virtual Coventry Twin Cities Summit and the letter of Greetings from Coventry, England **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

5.2 Letter from President Zuk, Lublin, Poland – European Youth Capital 2023

J. Barycki responds that he spoke to Mr. Krzysztof Stanowski, Director of the International Cooperation Centre prior to the meeting who suggested creating a small youth group to prepare some programs and from that could join and be in Lublin in 2023. J. Barycki adds this an outstanding opportunity for Lublin to gather people and programs related to youth in terms of the European Union but they are also looking for our sister cities for input, participation and involvement. We could interact with the European Union, which is very important for Canada as well.

The Chair advises that S. Gebauer will continue to reach out to Lublin and will provide more information at the next meeting.

Moved by J. Barycki, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,
That the letter from President Zuk, regarding the European Youth Capital 2023 award **BE RECEIVED**, and further that the Council Assistant provide further information regarding the implementation of planned international activities for the program for 2023.
Carried.

6. New Business

None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on a date and time to be determined in September 2021.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 3:46 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

International Relations Committee – 2020 Annual Report

Membership

Councillor Fred Francis, Chairperson

Councillor Fabio Costante

Councillor Gary Kaschak

Councillor Ed Sleiman

Mr. Daniel Ableser

Ms. Maria Belenkova

Mr. Jerry Barycki

Mr. Scott Despina

Mr. Ronnie Haidar

Mr. William Ma

Mr. Steven Spagnuolo

Mr. L.T. Zhao

Mandate

- Support the efforts of the Mayor and Council in the enhancement of Windsor's international image
- Promote and enhance our relationship with current twin cities
- Support international education, cultural, sport and economic initiatives

The International Relations Committee continues to promote Windsor's international interests and image through its focus on strengthening the current community based twin city relationships both abroad and in the local community. This is achieved through the committee's continued support towards educational, cultural, social and economic based exchanges. The committee also devotes its energies towards the exploration of potential new or emerging twin city relationships where there is a desire to twin based on a strong local community commitment, and where long term, valuable exchanges are realized.

The Members of the committee met three times in 2020, on February 26th, June 18th and September 24th. Due to the Covid19 pandemic the June meeting took place via teleconference and the September meeting took place via zoom.

Medical Supplies

At the request of our twin city of Changchun, at the onset of the Covid Pandemic in China, the IRC approved an expenditure of \$2000 towards the purchase of medical supplies to be sent to Changchun. As the coronavirus reached Canada and borders began to close it was determined that the supplies would remain in the City of Windsor and would be distributed to the city's frontline workers.

You + Me Sculpture Project

At its meeting held on February 26, 2020, the members of the International Relations Committee approved an expenditure of \$5,000 for the You + Me Sculpture Project that will be housed at Jackson Park.

Twin City Post Initiative

After consulting with Administration and viewing renderings, the International Relations Committee has approved funds for the creation and installation of a Twin City Post. The decorative post will include directional signs denoting the names of Windsor's Twin Cities and will be displayed permanently at an undetermined location.

4th Annual Children's Art Exchange

The 4th Annual Children's Art Exhibition was held virtually this year and was very well received. Locally, over 40 children participated and the exhibition also included art from children in Changchun, China, Fujisawa, Japan, Gunsan South Korea, Lublin, Poland, Mannheim, Germany and Saltillo, Mexico. The theme was "Staying Healthy Together". With the assistance of Blake Roberts of the City of Windsor's Communications Department Committee, a video showcasing all of the beautiful art was created and shared locally and internationally. The video can be viewed at the following link [2020 Art Exhibition Video](#), found on the City of Windsor's YouTube channel.

Selected drawings from local children were included in the Virtual Exhibitions of both Fujisawa, Japan and Gunsan, South Korea.

Mayor's Summit – Mannheim, Germany

On September 9, 2020, Councillor Fred Francis, Chair of the International Relations Committee, participated in the Mayor's Summit that was organized by Mannheim Germany.

The topic that Councillor Francis chose to speak about was “*International City to City Cooperation – Better Together*” and focused on the successes and challenges with our neighbour, Detroit, Michigan. Our two cities are located in different countries, but are separated only by the Detroit River and are connected by a bridge and tunnel. As part of the Summit the participating cities signed a Joint Political Declaration to:

- Call for the recognition of cities within the United Nations
- Underline the crucial roles of cities during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Emphasize the decisive roles of cities in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals
- Remind that the global challenges can only be overcome together
- Declare the commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism

2020 marked milestone anniversaries with the following cities:

- Gunsan, South Korea: 15 years
- Lublin, Poland: 20 years
- Mannheim, Germany: 40 years

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the City of Windsor was unable to invite delegations from these cities to celebrate these very important milestone anniversaries.

The City of Windsor has two twinning anniversaries scheduled in 2021, which include:

- Granby, Quebec: 65 years
- Ohrid, Macedonia: 20 years.

From: syun@ynfas.com
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2021 3:25 AM
To: mayoro@citywindsor.ca
Subject: The warm greetings from Yunnan Province, China

To City of Windsor,

Dear Honorable Mayor Drew Dilkens,

Thanks for your valuable time in reading my email coming from Yunnan Province, China.

It is our pleasure to be entrusted by the People's Government of Yuxi Municipality to express their cooperation willing to you directly, the Yuxi Municipality is a prefecture-level city governed by Yunnan Province, which they are strongly interested in your City hoping to build a friendly relationship and long-term communication with your government.

In order to discuss the fields of possible cooperation between both government and the people, such as education, culture, tourism, social economic development, scientific research, business and trade and so on. And we are pleased and willing to develop a new method of cooperation and to build a platform for future cooperation promotion.

If your government or related enterprises would have the interest to keep the communication and make deeper understanding of each other please feel free to let me know.

Wish to hear from you soon and hope you have a great weekend!

Best Regards

Season

Season

Manager

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https://www.mannheimer-morgen.de/orte/mannheim_artikel.-mannheim-mannheimer-oberbuergermeister-peter-kurz-erhaelt-nach-auszeichnung-viel-erkennung- arid.1851108.html

Mannheimer Morgen Plus article World Mayor International Award - Mannheim's Lord Mayor receives much recognition for being honoured with the World Mayor International Award

Mannheim's Lord Mayor Peter Kurz receives much recognition after receiving award

15.9.2021

Written by Stefan Proet!!

Mannheim. The international award is followed by regional appreciation: Mannheim's Lord Mayor Peter Kurz (SPD) received much recognition on Tuesday for receiving the World Mayor International Award 2021. "The award recognises Mannheim's striving and attitude to face the great challenges of our time in dialogue and thinking across borders," Kurz's counterpart from Ludwigshafen, Jutta Steinruck (SPD), said when asked. Heidelberg's Lord Mayor Eckart WOrzner (non-party) called the award a "worthy recognition for its outstanding international commitment in cooperation with cities all over the world".

The City Mayor Foundation (Foundation), an international urban affairs think tank based in London, had awarded Kurz on Monday for his "commitment and cooperation with cities around the world".

"In today's turbulent times, cities that cooperate and learn from each other make a great contribution to improving social, economic and environmental conditions," said Tann vom Hove of the City Mayors Foundation. In the Covid pandemic, Mannheim's emergency programmes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged were recognised and copied by other cities, he said.

"Today more than ever, cities need to cooperate and learn from each other - this is true in the neighbourhood as well as on an international level," said Heidelberg's Lord Mayor WOrzner. Jutta Steinruck also emphasised the importance of cooperation in her statement: "As mayor, we think and act beyond party and national borders, we think in networks and connect the local with the international on many levels." In any case, she was sincerely happy for her counterpart.

Stefan Dallinger, District Administrator of the Rhine-Neckar district, said the award was proof of Kurz' understanding of urban policy: "thinking along long lines and checking every project for urban development potential". As Chairman of the Rhine-Neckar Regional Association, he was pleased "to have such a mayor in our ranks".

Mannheim's mayor was the only German among the twelve top finalists for the 2021 World Mayor Prize. A total of 81 city leaders from 21 countries worldwide were nominated. Peter Kurz had been suggested for nomination by Haifa's former mayor, among others. The prizes and awards are presented every two years in several categories. In 2021, the mayors of Grigny (France) and Rotterdam won the World Mayor Prize. Awards went to the cities of Ankara, Bratislava (Slovakia) and Raqqa (Syria), among others.

As further examples of Mannheim's international cooperation, the World Mayor Foundation mentioned Mannheim's city partnership system, through which projects have been implemented. It was mentioned that Mannheim has a permanent representation and branch office in Tel Aviv for start-up companies.

Congratulations to Peter Kurz also came on Tuesday from the twin cities of Windsor (Canada) and Bydgoszcz (Poland). The fact that the partnership with Windsor is mutually beneficial is also thanks to

the vision and strong leadership style of Mayor Kurz, said his Canadian counterpart Drew Dilkens. "His efforts in the areas of economic development, education, and arts and culture have fostered collaboration and the exchange of ideas while deepening the friendship and understanding of the relationship between our two communities."

Rafal Bruski, Mayor of Bydgoszcz, said the prestigious award fully reflected Kurz's commitment and leadership on the international stage. For Bydgoszcz, Kurz is an invaluable, reliable partner "whose friendship we can always rely on in good times as well as in difficult ones".

Kurz's commitment to cities in Europe as delegate of the German Association of Cities in the Committee of the Regions and the global contacts he established as mayor also pay off locally, said Helmut Dedy, Chief Executive of the German Association of Cities. "Because cities all over the world are facing similar challenges: for example, in the Corona pandemic, in dealing with climate change or in sustainable urban development."

Peter Kurz, in office since 2007, acts as rapporteur in the Committee of the Regions for the expansion of the European Emissions Trading Scheme and the introduction of a CO2 border adjustment system.

Three questions - Peter Kurz on the "World Mayor International Award".

"Confirmation and incentive at the same time"

Mannheim. Peter Kurz on the "World Mayor International Award".

Dr Kurz, what does the award mean to you?

Peter Kurz: I am of course delighted about the award. Above all, it recognises our international work and underlines the importance of the cities. To be among the award winners is both a confirmation and an incentive. Such an award also recognises the performance of the staff.

In short: First of all, visibility is important for the long-term development of cities today. And Mannheim knows a thing or two about it. But above all, we all benefit when we learn from each other. And solutions can only be found together if many work together. The prize will certainly further strengthen this exchange and cooperation.

How far do you see Mannheim in the sustainable management of crises?

In short: The challenges of the world are concentrated in cities, be it climate change, globalisation, living together in diversity. Here, solutions must be found for mobility, the environment, but also social balance. The pandemic has shown this in particular. With our mission statement, the Alliance for Living Together in Diversity, a local implementation for the Green Deal or the orientation of the conversion, we are taking on exemplary local responsibility for global challenges in precisely this sense. And it is precisely this that is increasingly being noticed supra-regionally and internationally.

World Mayor Essays

Peter Kurz

Mayor of Mannheim, Germany

By Christian Sommer*

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Peter Kurz, Mayor of Mannheim, Germany, since 2007

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THE ESSAY

I was delighted to be asked to write an article about the Mayor of Mannheim, Dr Peter Kurz, that highlights and discusses his achievements, ideas and approaches. As the managing director of a municipal company who has worked closely with Mayor Kurz for almost 20 years, I naturally have a very personal view of the situation which I would like to explain.

Industrial heritage

Mannheim is a traditional industrial city at the confluence of the Rhine and Neckar rivers in southwest Germany. With a population of around 300,000, Mannheim is the second largest city in Baden-Württemberg and ranks among the 20 largest cities in Germany. In the 1980s and 1990s, the city suffered greatly from the effects of structural change inherent to an economy based on industrial production. However, historically culture and innovation have always played a major role in Mannheim. Not only was Germany's first municipal theatre built here in 1776, but groundbreaking inventions such as the automobile (Carl Benz in 1886), the bicycle (Karl Drais in 1817) and the Bulldog tractor by a company called Lanz also originated in Mannheim. Furthermore, Mannheim's urban society is very diverse and multicultural. Almost half of the city's residents have an immigrant background. People from 176 countries live together in Mannheim.

Mayor Kurz leads Mannheim's transformation

In 1998, Mayor Kurz was elected deputy mayor for culture, education and sports. Even at that time, he had the vision of drawing on Mannheim's traditional strengths and thinking and developing the areas of urban development, culture and innovation in an integrated way. He began very early on to build up a creative business cluster for the city to stimulate structurally weak neighbourhoods with the help of artists and creative service providers while at the same time continuing to strengthen an atmosphere of openness. Germany's first academic pop music program (Popakademie) and the Musikpark, the first start-up centre for the music industry (which was also the first creative business centre in Germany), were born out of his initiative and established in the Jungbusch district. In 2007, Dr Peter Kurz was elected Mayor of Mannheim and was re-elected in 2015.

Since the beginning of the 2000s, Mayor Kurz has consistently worked on developing the vision of making Mannheim a city of innovation with a strong urban-cultural character. Under his leadership, eight start-up and innovation centres have been established over the last 20 years, providing an infrastructure for the regional start-up ecosystem that is unique in Europe. Almost 300 start-ups are located in this ecosystem and are working ever more on sustainable innovations in keeping with the city's Mannheim 2030 mission statement. In recent years, a special focus has been placed on developing and expanding the medical technology sector. A MedTech campus was established in the immediate vicinity of University Hospital, with two start-up centres and a number of research institutions that are intended to shape this scientific and

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WORLD MAYOR 2018

WORLD MAYOR 2016

WORLD MAYOR 2014

WORLD MAYOR 2012

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WORLD MAYOR 2008

WORLD MAYOR 2006

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WORLD MAYOR 2004

economic focus for Mannheim.

Furthermore, Mayor Kurz has built up this start-up ecosystem as an integral part of innovative and cultural urban development. For example, the activities linked to the start-up promotion and the internationalisation of the ecosystem are managed and implemented by the same municipal company that is responsible for positioning Mannheim as a UNESCO City of Music and providing the first German Night Mayor. Mayor Kurz sees international cooperation among cities as a key to positive global development because mankind's future problems will originate largely in cities as most people live in cities. In light of this fact, it will therefore be necessary to solve problems in cities. Mayor Kurz explains, "Cities are not only the centres of innovation, they also have to act faster, communicate more directly with the population and - above all - cooperate. They know that they are not independent and cannot pursue their interests in independent of others. This makes them the political entity most capable of responding to the immense challenges of the 21st century. The exchange among cities creates knowledge and inspiration and contributes to understanding and turns into a positive political force. That is why we as a city are committed internationally."

International cooperation

Mayor Kurz began to initiate international partnerships early on. Based on the network of Mannheim's partner cities, other projects and initiatives were developed and implemented outside of these structures. For example, Mannheim's start-up ecosystem has a permanent representative and a branch office in Tel Aviv, one of the most important start-up capitals in the world. In Hebron on the West Bank, an international co-working lab was also set up in cooperation with the Palestinian administration and with the support of the Mannheim-based GIZ (German Society for International Cooperation) to give company founders there a platform for exchange with international start-up locations. In the Turkish city of Kilis, Mannheim is using federal funding to build a centre to educate women, especially Syrian refugees. In Moldova and Ukraine, we are supporting cities in cooperative urban development with citizens. The strong commitment also generates credibility within Mannheim's heterogeneous urban society.

Mayor Kurz is not only the chairman of the Baden-Württemberg Association of German Cities and Towns, but he also chairs the board of the Global Parliament of Mayors.

The withdrawal of American troops

One of the great challenges during Mayor Kurz's two terms in office was that huge areas in Mannheim became available at relatively short notice upon the withdrawal of American troops. Under the Mayor's leadership the city made the daring move to purchase this space with its own new company and - despite the extremely fast pace - to designate it for sustainable, future-oriented uses. Already now we are seeing that this exemplary move is going to succeed. Fifty percent of the area was used to produce and create green spaces. The conversion of this area is changing the notion of what a city is. To this end, not only have residential quarters been promoted with ecologically and socially innovative projects, companies resettled there and digitization approaches implemented, but the 2023 Federal Garden Show will also be used as an important urban development tool on part of these newly converted areas. It will also be the platform to showcase the transformation of the city nationwide.

Mannheim, a welcoming and compassionate city

A historical challenge for Germany and especially for Mannheim was accepting numerous refugees in 2015. At times, 16,000 people were housed in the former American barracks. During this time, Mannheim was a city where refugees were first received and processed. Many requirements that had to be met and were met simultaneously included the protection of the refugees and their care, the assurance that the barracks could nevertheless be further developed for new residential quarters and keeping the peace in the city. The simultaneous increase in immigration from Southeastern Europe over the years meant considerable social challenges for the city in terms of integration into the labor and housing market as well as in daycare centres

and schools.

Preserving the social values of openness, acceptance and peace in the city are therefore of particular importance to Mannheim and a key feature of the Mayor's work. A special tool for this work is the Mannheim Declaration for Living Together in Diversity. Around 300 signatory institutions profess that the strength and essence of Mannheim lie in a city characterized by diversity whose citizens live together in peace and tolerance. The signatories vow to fight against all those who exclude and divide, and they commit themselves to specific partnerships and events.

Here, too, Mannheim has not lost sight of its international responsibility. The intolerable situation at Europe's external borders led to Mannheim becoming a member of the group of cities offering a safe haven to refugees who reach Europe by land or boat (Städte Sicherer Hafen/ Cities of Safe Havens). When I asked about the current situation in Afghanistan, Mayor Kurz said: "We cannot shirk our responsibility for what has happened. On the one hand, we must be ready to take in those who are being persecuted, and to do so as quickly as possible. And here, too, we as cities have to signal that we are ready for this and don't wish to wait for an agreement in Europe with Poland and Hungary. On the other hand, there has to be really genuine help for refugees in neighboring regions. Here, too, cities can contribute, as we are showing in Kilis."

The city of Mannheim has specifically applied to take in several Afghan families from local staff. These families find protection and support in Mannheim. Their children are educated and integration managers are at their side.

By joining the Cities of Safe Havens alliance, the city of Mannheim has also agreed to take in more people. The alliance has already signalled to the federal government the willingness of cities to take in additional local Afghan forces. The City of Mannheim, under the leadership of Mayor Kurz, stands by this commitment, especially in view of the depressing situation in Afghanistan

Covid

One of the biggest challenges for Mayor Kurz as the city's leader - as was certainly the case for all mayors around the world - was the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, too, the city's administration under his leadership acted extremely quickly and efficiently. The international exchange with the partner cities was initiated to benefit from each other's experiences. Agreements were made with Chinese partners for the delivery of masks. Later on, 50,000 masks were donated to the partner city Bygdocz. The city set up emergency aid programmes for local businesses that went far beyond the funds provided by the federal or state government. These programmes were especially geared to the self-employed and restaurants who were particularly affected by the pandemic. Thanks in no small part to these programmes, almost all businesses in these sectors will survive the pandemic economically. Other special aspects of Mannheim's response included easier access to vaccinations for older people by way of a direct invitation and a vaccination campaign that went directly to socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Mannheim was a pioneer in this regard, and Mayor Kurz had made the issue of social inequality in vaccination a topic early on. Mannheim has thus achieved an average vaccination rate despite problematic social areas that continue to be above average.

Mannheim, a stronger, fairer, greener city

I was born and raised in Mannheim. At the end of the 1980s and 1990s, it sometimes pained me to say where I came from because the city suffered from an image of decline. Many friends felt the same way, but this has changed completely. Mannheim is now known as a highly innovative, agile, cosmopolitan and friendly city where people don't just talk the talk but walk the walk. Mannheim is a start-up city, a city of music and creativity, a city of science and research, a city of museums and culture, a city of diversity and equal opportunity that fosters international friendships and works to make the world a better place. Mannheim has character!

Thanks to Mayor Kurz's efforts, Mannheim has become more lovable, greener, more

sustainable, more innovative, more urban and more cosmopolitan without denying its "rough soul". When someone asks me today where I come from, it fills me with pride to say that I come from Mannheim.

The image of my hometown that I carry in me has changed profoundly in the last 20 years Mayor Kurz has been at the helm. I am proud to come from a city which values culture just as much as business, where special attention is paid to diversity and justice, which acts on an equal footing with international partners, but which also shapes the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region in a friendly and cooperative manner with its neighbouring partner cities like Heidelberg and Ludwigshafen.

I am pleased that I can contribute to the fact that Mannheim has understood that the future can only be shaped if we switch now to sustainable management. I am pleased to be able to contribute to the fact that women in Mannheim have the same opportunities as men and enjoy a high status in science, research and education. Mayor Kurz is not only the visionary behind these developments, but also the driving force. He tirelessly drives us (who work in managerial positions on Mannheim's development) to look ahead and to anticipate today what will be important and right for the city tomorrow. As a pilot city, Mannheim has been developing its local green deal for months. One can say that under his leadership we engage in self-criticism and are constantly evolving.

Mayor Kurz did not invent spaghetti ice cream -that was Dario Fontanella - but he comes from Mannheim, too.

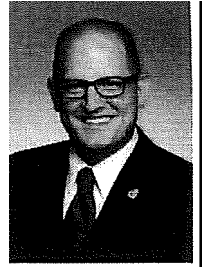
***Christian Sommer**

Christian Sommer is the managing director of NEXT MANNHEIM, a public owned company of the city of Mannheim.

NEXT MANNHEIM runs eight startup centers, supports startups, the startup-ecosystem and is responsible for the cultural urban development of the city.

Christian started his career as a music manager back in the early 90th. He worked with international artists and later for record companies like EMI and INTERCORD. In 2003, he became the first managing director of the Musikpark, the first startup center for creative industries and still the only startup center for music business in Germany. Over the years NEXT MANNHEIM combined the aspects of supporting cultural- and creative industries, fostering female entrepreneurship, establishing a startup ecosystem, cultural urban development and internationalisation of those tasks, in ones entity.

Follow @World_MayOi'



Mayor Dr. Peter Kurz
Mayor of the City of Mannheim, Germany
Stadt Mannheim
Rathaus E 5
68159 Mannheim
Deutschland

Dear Mayor Kurz,

On behalf of the City of Windsor, it is my honour to congratulate you on being recognized by the City Mayors Foundation with the much-deserved World Mayor International Award.

Since 1980, our Sister Cities of Mannheim and Windsor have collaborated closely to strengthen our international bonds and foster a greater understanding of the social, cultural and economic ties between our two communities. It has always been a genuine pleasure to meet and work with you to realize our shared vision of creating exciting new opportunities for our residents and countries.

It is no surprise that nearly 50 nomination letters were filed in support of you - a clear testament to the tremendous impact your strong, effective leadership has had around the globe. Your forward thinking strategies for placing Mannheim at the forefront of innovation and sustainability is an inspiration to many, and certainly placed you as the front-runner for this prestigious award.

Your positive influence extends far beyond Mannheim's borders. From Windsor to Haifa and many places in-between, you have continued to build strong alliances to address difficult challenges, while finding new ways to advance the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations and supported by our municipalities. Thank you for being a driving force for so many valuable initiatives and partnerships to help create a more prosperous, healthy and sustainable future for residents at home in Mannheim, in Windsor and around the world.

**(519) 255-6315 • 350 City Hall Square West, P.O. Box 1607, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6S1 • FAX: (519) 255-7796
E-mail: mayoro@citywindsor.ca**

Gebauer, Sandra

From: Francis, Fred
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 10:07 PM
To: Gebauer, Sandra
Subject: FW: Lublin scores the highest in the report of green cities
Attachments: 1.
_miejsce_lublina_w_rankingu_europolis_-_grafikaklowfqwibgpc785hlxs,klOWfqWibGpC785HIXsJpg; 1.
_miejsce_lublina_w_rankingu_europolis_-_grafikaklowfqwibgpc785hlxs,klOWfqWibGpC785HIXsJpg; 1.
_miejsce_lublina_w_rankingu_europolis_-_grafikaklowfqwibgpc785hlxs,klOWfqWibGpC785HIXs.jpg; 1.
_miejsce_lublina_w_rankingu_europolis_-_grafikaklowfqwibgpc785hlxs,klOWfqWibGpC785HIXsJpg

Hi Sandra,

We can add this to the next ire meeting on communications please.

Thank you,
Fred

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: Krzysztof Stanowski <krzysztof.stanowski@lublin.eu>
Date: 2021-06-30 3:27 p.m. (GMT-05:00)
To: "Barycki, Jerry" <jerrybarycki@gmail.com>, "Francis, Fred" <ffrancis@citywindsor.ca>
Subject: Lublin scores the highest in the report of green cities

The ranking of 66 Polish cities with district rights was presented at the Europolis conference on 15 June. **Lublin won the blue ribbon in the Europolis report - green cities** prepared by the Polish Robert Schuman Foundation.

Lublin strives to achieve sustainable development on the social, economic and environmental levels. The ranking results and the highest score of Lublin plainly indicate that line of actions we enter upon really improve the quality of environment and life of inhabitants. Lublin has been recognized as the city actively aiming to "become green" - **says Krzysztof Zuk, Mayor of Lublin.**

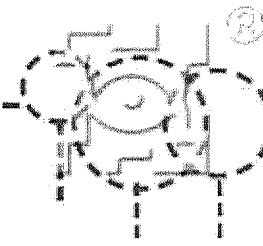
Lublin performed strongly in categories as public health, public transport and air quality measures. Undoubtedly, component that identifies Lublin is constantly developing network of trolleybuses (trolleybuses make the rounds in only three Polish cities - Lublin, Gdynia and Tychy).

The main assumption of **Europolis report - green cities. Polish cities for the climate, environment and health of their inhabitants** is the belief that cities play an extremely key and decisive role in the field of climate and environmental protection and in the conversion aimed at achieving climate neutrality. **The report opens in new tab** is based on 5 indicators: individual electric transport, public transport, air quality measures, local community and public health.

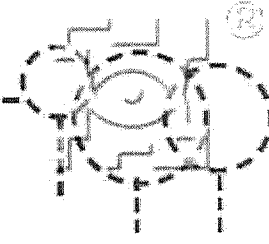
<https://lublin.eu/en/lublin-4-all/news/lublin-scores-the-highest-in-the-report-of-green-cities.131,1413,1.html>

With best regards
Krzysztof Stanowski, Lublin

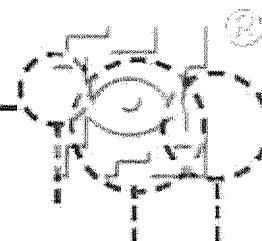
Ranking zielonych miast



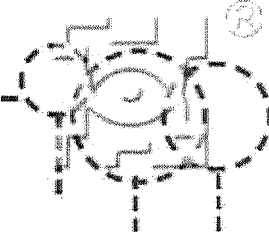
Ranking zielonych miast



Ranking zielonych miast



Ranking zielonych miast





Subject: International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IUC) European Union - North America for the City-to-City Cooperation Partnership - City Wide

Reference:

Date to Council: October 4, 2021
Author: Karina Richters
Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change
519-253-7111 ext. 3226
krichters@citywindsor.ca
Pollution Control
Report Date: September 16, 2021
Clerk's File #: EI2021

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the partnership agreement for participation in the International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC) European Union – North America for the City-to-City Cooperation Partnership, with approval in technical content by the City Engineer, in financial content to the City Treasurer, and in legal form to the City Solicitor; and further,
2. That the Chief Administrative Officer **DELEGATE** signing of all claims and applicable schedules and other such documents required as part of the request for payment to the City Engineer, subject to financial content approval from the area's Financial Planning Administrator.

Executive Summary:

N/A

Background:

In October 2017, the City of Windsor was selected to participate in the first City-to-City partnership organized through the International Urban Cooperation (IUC) program run by the European Union. From 2018 through 2019, the City of Windsor was paired with

Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain, with our primary learning outcomes focused on Active Transportation, Community Energy/Transition Planning and Climate Change Adaptation with Nature Based Solutions (CR220/2018).

During its first phase, IUC became the world's largest city-to-city cooperation program involving 165 cities from the EU and non-EU countries across the Americas and Asia.

In June 2021, The City of Mannheim, Germany, one of Windsor's sister cities, reached out to the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change office to discuss the opportunity to partner on an application for the second phase of the International Urban & Regional Cooperation (IURC) Program.

Discussion:

The second phase of the International Urban and Regional Cooperation program (IURC) aims to lead and develop a form of decentralized international urban and regional cooperation in the fields of sustainable urban development and innovation. The project facilitates knowledge-exchange through a combination of online tools and face-to-face support such as study visits, participation in thematic and networking events or capacity building.

By pairing EU cities with non-EU partner cities, the IURC aims to boost access to expertise in urban development policy and help cities promote smart, green, and inclusive growth. Working with like-minded partners, it fosters better ways to plan, finance, develop, govern and manage cities, and supports the EU's New Urban Agenda, Agenda 2030 (SDGs), the Urban agenda for the EU, the European Cohesion Policy and the European Green Deal. By joining the IURC city-to-city cooperation, the City of Windsor will:

- **COMMIT** – Cooperate for at least 18 months with your international peers, allocate resources and time to develop a successful cooperation which will last beyond the lifetime of this programme.
- **LEARN** – Get access to new ways of approaching challenges and benefits from a wider pool of good practices to draw upon; receive support in identifying innovative business models for financing local action.
- **SHARE** – Help others to solve issues by sharing your own experiences and relaying knowledge.
- **EXCHANGE** – Open your city to dialogue and partnership with new global peers, and relevant stakeholders (public and private).
- **SHOWCASE** – Profile your best practices and achievements internationally.
- **IMPLEMENT** – Work with new partners to make your vision of sustainable urban development a reality in a sector of your choice.

The following North American Cities were also successful in being paired through the IUC programme:

- Ottawa – Zaragoza, Spain
- St John's – Braga, Portugal
- San Diego – Lyon, France
- Pittsburgh – Dortmund, Germany
- Kansas City – GZM, Poland
- Boston & Northern Virginia Regional Commission – Barcelona, Spain
- Aurora – Bergamo & Rimini, Italy

To support the city-to-city pairings, the IURC has financial funding commitments to support technical learning exchanges between the two Cities. Representatives from both Cities are expected to travel to their partner Cities in Spring/Summer 2022, pending COVID travel restriction Attendees have yet to be determined and will be determined as the partnership progresses and priority activities are identified. The IURC has committed to funding the air travel, hotel accommodations and per diem expenses to cover meals, etc. Additional funding may be available to further support learning opportunities between the two Cities.

Early discussions between the City of Windsor and Mannheim has established the thematic area of Ecological Transition and Green Deal as the priority area of cooperation. This thematic area generally covers topics such as: the Renovation Wave (energy efficiency in Buildings); Nature-based solutions (greening, water management); Sustainable Agriculture (food systems, urban gardens); and Circular Economy (waste management).

However, the IURC has acknowledged that we are also able to explore the other thematic areas: Urban & Regional Renewal & Urban Poverty (public space, urban models, mobility and transport, deprived neighbourhoods, housing and social cohesion); and Innovative, Sustainable & Carbon Neutral Ecosystems & Strategic Sectors (tourism, culture, health care, life sciences, education, jobs and skills).

The City of Mannheim is one of Windsor's Sister Cities located in the heart of the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region and one of the strongest economic regions in Germany. The Mayor of Mannheim, Peter Kurz, sees international cooperation between cities as a key to positive global development and was recently recognized for his efforts with the 2021 World Mayor International Award.

In addition to the City-to-City pairing, this phase will also include the ability to cluster with other pairings that share similar challenges and topics of cooperation within the same geographical area. This may allow for further cooperation with other Canadian and U.S. Cities.

The partnership is expected to be completed in the fall of 2023.

Risk Analysis:

There are no critical or significant risks associated with the IURC pairing.

Resource risks include the staff time commitment to the on-going learning opportunities between the Cities of Windsor and Mannheim, however, these risks are minimized as the projects selected for the partnership are projects currently underway.

The partnership agreement is not intended to create a binding or legal obligation on either party, but acknowledges a commitment to participate in the collaboration as fully as possible.

The IURC strongly encourages the City-to-City learning exchanges as a crucial component to achieving the most out of the program. However, IURC does recognize the challenges posed by fluctuating COVID travel restrictions for international travel. IURC will work with the municipalities to ensure appropriate timing of travel pending COVID restrictions. The IURC has committed funding to support the learning exchanges between the two Cities.

Climate Change Risks

Climate Change Mitigation:

The IURC program will help support the City of Windsor's mitigation efforts as a priority area of cooperation is the Renovation Wave with a focus on energy efficiency in Buildings. Sharing best practices and learnings will inform projects currently underway at the City of Windsor, including but not limited to the Deep Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program Design.

Climate Change Adaptation:

The IURC program will help support the City of Windsor's adaptation efforts as secondary priority areas of cooperation includes Nature-based solutions (greening, water management) and Sustainable Agriculture (food systems, urban gardens). Sharing best practices and learnings will inform projects currently underway at the City of Windsor, including but not limited to the implementation of the Sewer and Coastal Flood Management Plan and Community Gardens.

Financial Matters:

The IUC has committed funding to support the learning exchanges between the two Cities. This funding will cover flight, accommodations and a per day diem for 2-3 city representatives to travel to the paired City. IUC has indicated that additional funds may be available to support other learning opportunities including national conferences support by the IUC.

Consultations:

IURC Coordinator
Mannheim Administration

Conclusion:

The IURC pairing represents a unique opportunity for administration to learn from European leaders. These technical exchanges are occurring at an opportune time as the areas of cooperation (examples Renovation wave, nature-based solutions) are currently underway. Innovative approaches identified through this partnership may be included in these projects.

Planning Act Matters:

N/A

Approvals:

Name	Title
Karina Richters	Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change
Carrie McCrindle	Financial Planning Administrator
Kevin Webb	Manager, Environmental Quality
Jake Renaud	Senior Manager, Pollution Control
Chris Nepszy	Commissioner, Infrastructure Services
Joe Mancina	Commissioner, Corporate Services – Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Jason Reynar	Chief Administrative Officer

Notifications:

Name	Address	Email
International Relations Committee		

Appendices:

IURC North America City-to-City Cooperation - Partnership Agreement

Kadour, Karen

From: Gebauer, Sandra
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 10:50 AM
To: Kadour, Karen
Subject: FW: Open Call IUC Programm - Application

From: Miller, Stefanie 19 <Stefanie.Miller@mannheim.de>
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 10:40 AM
To: Gebauer, Sandra <sgebauer@citywindsor.ca>
Cc: Linse, David 19 <David.Linse@mannheim.de>; Garbrecht, Jana 19 <Jana.Garbrecht@mannheim.de>
Subject: Open Call IUC Programm - Application

Dear Sandra,

I would like to introduce myself briefly to you. My name is Stefanie Miller and I am part of the team for International Affairs at the City of Mannheim. My colleague Jana who you have been in contact with previously has kindly transferred me your mail.

I am contacting you as the City of Mannheim is currently aiming to apply for the IUC program in which a new call has recently opened. During the new phase of program that has been launched early this year, new city-to-city cooperation in the field of sustainable urban development can be supported. Mannheim is very interested in applying.

As the City of Windsor has also previous experiences in the IUC program, we would like to know if the City of Windsor is already planning to apply for this call or if an application would be of interest as well. We would be very interested in cooperating in the field of sustainable transformation and propose to be matched with Windsor as a city-to-city pairing within this program. For more information on the current call, please check out the following link:
<https://cdn.iurc.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/iurc-north-america-faq.pdf>

Therefore, we would be very delighted to know if Windsor is interested in applying in this program and to further discuss the possibilities to cooperate in such an international project. The IUC program would certainly be a great opportunity to further deepen the cooperation between our two cities.

As the deadline for EU cities is already on May 31st, we would be very much looking forward to your feedback and to discuss all further details with you and the team of the City of Windsor.

Kind regards

Stefanie Miller
Stellvertretende Abteilungsleitung | Deputy Head
Buro für EU-Angelegenheiten und globale Nachhaltigkeit | EU Affairs and Global Sustainability

STADTMANNHEIM

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