

City of Richmond

Sister City Advisory Committee 2017 Year in Review

2017 Summary:

The Sister City Advisory Committee manages the relationships with three official Sister Cities: Pierrefonds, Quebec (since 1967), Wakayama, Japan (since 1973), and Xiamen, China (since 2012); as well as one Friendship City: Qingdao, China (since 2008). Information from various SCAC activities and events are outlined in the following pages.

2017 Committee Members:

Chair

Hans Havas

Vice-Chair, Wakayama

Kevin Lainchbury

Vice-Chair, Xiamen

Helen Quan

Vice-Chair, Qingdao

Eden Jiang Zhang

Vice Chair, Pierrefonds

Iryna Vodchenko

Members

Glenn Kishi

Ihsan Malik

Michelle Chen

Michael Sirota

Stanley Yeh

Lisa MacNeil

Kim Ng

Razzak Paracha

Council Liaison

Councillor Bill McNulty

School Board Liaison

Donna Sargent

Alice Wong(Alternate)

January

- Newly appointed SCAC members were introduced at the first meeting in January.



Members of the 2017 Richmond Sister City Advisory Committee

- The SCAC elected the Chair and Vice-Chairs for Wakayama, Pierrefonds, Xiamen and Qingdao initiatives committees; and selected members to the following subcommittees:
 - Pierrefonds Initiatives;
 - Wakayama Initiatives;
 - Xiamen Initiatives;
 - Qingdao Initiatives; and
 - Public Relations Initiatives.

May

- On May 3, the Sister City Advisory Committee welcomed a delegation from Wakayama for the Canada 150 Ships to Shore King of the Sea which featured a Japanese tall ship the Kaiwo Maru. The Kaiwo Maru is a sail training vessel from the Japanese Agency of Maritime Education and Training for Seafarers (JMETS), an organization that trains future navigators and engineers.



SCAC members welcomed the a delegation from Wakayama at the Airport

- From May 8-20, 36 students and 4 teachers from Richmond visited Wakayama as part of the annual student exchange visit, organized by the Richmond School District and supported by the SCAC.



Richmond students meet with Mayor Obana



Homestay family welcoming ceremony in Wakayama, Japan

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Richmond Students visit Himeji Castle in Himeji, Japan

December

- In recognition of Canada's 150th Year of Confederation, the Sister City Advisory Committee commissioned recognition plaques to the City of Richmond's sister and friendship city relationships:
 - Pierrefonds, Quebec
 - Wakayama, Japan
 - Qingdao, China
 - Xiamen, China



Sister City Members celebrated Canada 150 with a gift to Richmond's Sister Cities