



Mayors and delegates gather for a group photo at Winter Cities 2000.

A Report on the 9th Mayors Conference and Winter Cities 2000

Luleå and Kiruna, Sweden were hosts of Winter Cities 2000, February 12 to 16, the first time the event was hosted by two cities. Winter Cities 2000 comprised the biennial International Conference of Mayors of Northern Cities, which was held in Luleå, and a Winter Forum and Winter Expo in each of the two cities. The conference theme was "Sustainable Development of Winter Cities." Twenty-six cities from ten countries participated in conference events.

Mayors Conference

The ninth Mayors Conference featured an opening session on the conference theme by keynote speaker Eva Smith, director of the Swedish National Environment Protection Board. Other sessions dealt with "Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters,"

The following were also announced at the Mayors conference—

- a revised membership fee system that will encourage broader participation in the IAMNC;

Please see *Winter Cities 2000* on page 2.

Winter Cities 2000 Nets— “Concrete Results” for Luleå and Kiruna

The cities of Luleå and Kiruna have declared Winter Cities 2000 a success. Each of the hosts of Winter Cities 2000 already claims new ideas for more livable winters, new friends, and new business potential.

Luleå

One hundred and eighty-five companies from Sweden, Norway, Finland, Japan, China, the United States, and Denmark participated in the Winter Expo in Luleå. Visitors to the showcase totaled 8,500 persons. Exhibits ranged from winter technology and recycling systems to fish, handicrafts, and tourism. The Norwegian firm Rya Produkter had such an enthusiastic response to its exhibit of fish products that it is considering opening a fish specialty shop in Luleå.

The Winter Forum in Luleå

presented by the deputy mayor of Harbin, and ?Snow Removal and Civil Cooperation,? by the mayors of Prince George and Nuuk.

Final subcommittee reports were made on Recycling in Winter Cities, Winter Tourism, and Economic Expansion in Northern Cities, and two new research subcommittees were announced. The secretariat of the new subcommittee on Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters will be assumed by the city of Sapporo, and the secretariat of the new subcommittee for Snow Removal and Civil Cooperation will be assumed by the city of Prince George.

offered 61 seminars on topics ranging from ?Planning and Realizing Playgrounds in Winter Cities,? and ?Sub-Arctic Airports,? to ?Cold Storage Applications,? and ?Planning for Student Housing in a Cold Climate.? Seminars were attended by more than 1,800 people.

The city of Luleå provided an idyllic backdrop to Winter Cities 2000. The port town of Luleå with its frozen rivers and pastoral settings dotted with red and yellow houses, provided a venue where one could truly experience the ambience of this Swedish city. Please see *Concrete Results* on page 2.



NGO in Consultative Status (Roster) with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

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International Association of
**Mayors of Northern
Cities**

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Winter Cities 2000

Continued from page 1.

- a decision to allow the host city of the Mayors Conference to make the Winter Cities Showcase and Forum optional events;
- acceptance of new members: Taebaek, Republic of Korea, and

Concrete Results

Continued from page 1.

?We were so happy to have had the chance to host the Winter Cities 2000 Conference,? remarked Luleå mayor Ulla Ölvebro. Mayor Ölvebro has extended invitations to everyone to ?come and see us, and bring your friends!?

- Maardu, Estonian Republic;
- the selection of Anchorage, Alaska as host of the eleventh Mayors Conference in 2004.

Plans for the Coming Year

The general assembly meeting in Luleå made tentative plans for the coming year. These include the promotion of exchanges of information on administration and urban technology among northern cities through WinterNet. Each IAMNC member city will establish a web site linked with WinterNet to improve information distribution.

The general assembly also advocated the establishment of cooperative relations with various related institutions and organizations around the world, including local governments. The IAMNC will participate in conferences organized by the United Nations as a UN-recognized NGO, and the association will work on expanding membership by developing activities and making the conference more widely known among winter cities around the world. Another goal is to expand the function of research subcommittees. Research subcommittees will conduct studies on topics in which member cities show great interest.

Technical Tours

Following the morning portions of the Mayors Conference in Luleå, daily technical tours were offered to delegates, providing opportunities to observe society, business, government, and applications of technology in Sweden.

Kiruna

According to Lars Törnman, mayor of Kiruna, his city's contribution to Winter Cities 2000 was a success on many levels—visits by important decision makers, the opportunity for businesses and the city to work together in planning and implementing the events, numerous activities for local residents, and the great media coverage for Kiruna. At least 200 newspaper articles have been published on Winter Cities 2000, with great coverage of the role of Kiruna in the conference, as well as many radio and television reports. Germany's largest television station covered the whole event in Kiruna, and print and television journalists from Japan, China, and other countries were represented too.

"Kiruna tried to make the Winter Cities 2000 a meeting place for all partners to the science business here," said Mayor Törnman after the conference, "and the result was a tremendous success—and Kiruna worked very hard to make it so."

The Winter Forum in Kiruna comprised five symposia, which offered a smorgasbord of seminars ranging from "Cold Physiology in Humans," and "Women in Cold Climates," to "Mountain Rescue," and "Regulation of the Climate: the Role of the Arctic." More than a thousand registered participants attended sessions of the forum.

Successes in Kiruna

Kiruna's Winter Expo offered delegates a chance to examine displays that complemented the forum

technology in Sweden.

One of the highlights of these technical tours was a visit to the recently opened Sunderby Hospital in Luleå. Supporting its claim as the most modern hospital in Europe, Sunderby Hospital represents a stunningly innovative approach to medical care, focusing on architecture, state-of-the-art technology, and emphasizing not only better patient care but also greater concern for the environment.



Winter Expo in Luleå.

IAMNC Officials

President: mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents: mayors of Tromsø, Shenyang, and Prince George

Standing Directors: mayors of Luleå, Kiruna, and Aomori

Nonstanding Director: mayor of Stockholm

Auditor: mayor of Anchorage

and themes of Winter Cities 2000; and the Expo in Kiruna offered opportunities for companies to initiate business partnerships as well as sales of products and services.

One of the exhibitors there was the small Bjorkis Company, which produces equipment for dog sledding. By the last day of the Expo, Bjorkis had succeeded in signing contracts with a Finnish company and a German company. Bjorkis also participated in the Anchorage conference in 1994, and that event resulted in a contract for the company as the main dealer in Sweden for the American dog food producer Eagle Pack. Mayor Törnman pointed to this activity as a good example of how the Kiruna municipality has worked in the IAMNC.

For Winter Cities 2000, the Kiruna municipality coordinated the participation of all interested parties in Kiruna. All organizations active in Kiruna received an invitation to participate in the Kiruna booth, and they were required only to prepare their own part of the Expo and pay their own travel expenses. This method, claims Mayor Törnman, where the city provides preparatory work and all basic costs, has been very successful. Bjorkis, the mayor points out, is not the only example of how it works.

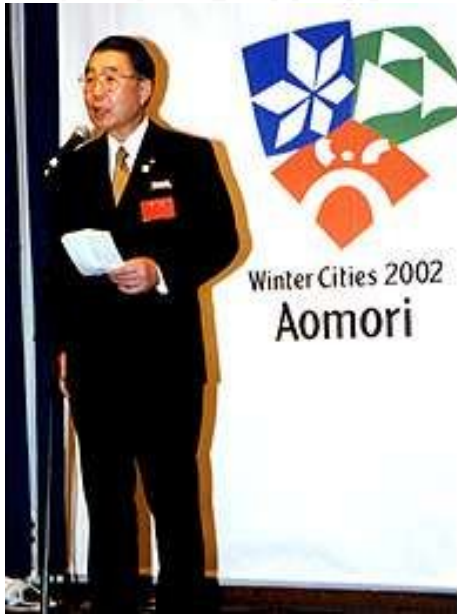
Mayor Törnman reported that the organizers have heard nothing but praise from visitors who traveled to Kiruna, and the comments from the people of Kiruna have also been favorable. One of those who praised Kiruna's part in the event was Bertil Carlstedt of the Swedish Ministry for Trade and Industry. Mr. Carlstedt said that this cooperation between business and the municipality has been an example to others.

Luleå web site - www.lulea.se

Kiruna web site -

www.kiruna.se/english

Aomori Extends Invitations for 2002



Seizo Sasaki, mayor of Aomori, Japan, invited conference delegates in Luleå to Aomori for the tenth Mayors Conference in 2002. Mayor Sasaki announced that he expected to develop a theme related to the compact city in connection with sustainable

development. The theme will include revitalizing city centers, avoiding urban sprawl, keeping urban functions concentrated in existing areas, more efficient snow removal, and issues related to the welfare of the elderly.

Mayor Sasaki also indicated that he expects to provide exchange opportunities for sports, arts, and culture, and to offer meeting opportunities for local artists. The mayor stressed the importance of art in cultural exchange and expressed the desire to see participating members bring art and artists from their cities to Aomori in 2002.

Aomori City web site
www.city.aomori.aomori.jp

Aomori Mayor Seizo Sasaki invites delegates to his city for the Mayors Conference in 2002.

Resolutions

of the Ninth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors

**Luleå and Kiruna, February 12 ? 16,
2000**

① In order to revitalize the development of the IAMNC as we enter the 21st century, we must reconfirm the basic principles upon which our Association was founded, in conjunction with strong group efforts and an aim of expanding the number of members.

② The role of the

③ Winter City-related information/homepages of member cities are to be linked with the newly established WinterNet to enhance efficient exchange of information.

④ The 11th International Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors will be hosted by the city of Anchorage.

Winter Cities 2000 Participants

Bosnia

Zenica

Canada

Prince George

China

**Changchun,
Harbin, Jamusi,
Jixi, Shenyang**

Greenland (Denmark)

Nuuk

Finland

Kemi, Oulu

Japan

Aomori, Sapporo

Korea

Taebaek

Norway

Secretariat of the subcommittee for Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters to be newly assumed by the city of Sapporo. The role of the Secretariat of the subcommittee for Snow Removal and Civil Cooperation to be newly assumed by the city of Prince George. Research period to extend up to four years. Overall increase in activity within subcommittees to be a general Association goal.

⑤ Mr. Kjell Mickelsson, former Mayor of Luleå, having made significant contributions to the development of the IAMNC, shall be granted honorary membership.

⑥ Ms Ulla Ivelbro, mayor of Luleå, and Mr. Lars Törnman, mayor of Kiruna, who hosted the ninth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, and the citizens of Luleå and Kiruna, who supported the conference shall be greatly honored.

Tromsø, Bardu, Målselv
Sweden
Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm,
Ålvsbyn, Boden, Haparanda, Pajala, Piteå

USA
Anchorage,
Minneapolis

Boldface indicates IAMNC member.

IAMNC Membership More Affordable

The IAMNC has reduced fees for membership in the association in order to encourage broader participation. The reduced fees will be in effect January 1, 2001.

Current

Membership Fees Per City Per Annum

<i>GDP Per Capita</i>	\$0 ? 4,999	\$5,000 ? 14,999	\$15,000 or more
<i>City Population</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Fee</i>
0 ? 99,999	\$500	\$1,000	\$3,000
100,000 ? 299,999	1,000	2,000	6,000
300,000 ? 499,999	1,500	3,000	9,000
500,000 ? 999,999	2,000	4,000	12,000
1,000,000 or more	2,500	5,000	15,000

Revised

Membership Fees Per City Per Annum

<i>GDP Per Capita</i>	\$0 ? 9,999	\$10,000 or more
<i>City Population</i>		
0 ? 499,999	\$1,000	\$2,000
500,000 ? 999,999	1,500	4,000

Dollar figures are U.S. currency.

Population and GDP: UN Demographic Yearbook, UN Statistical Yearbook.

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Taebaek, Maardu New IAMNC Members

Taebaek, Korea

Taebaek City is located near the east coast of the Republic of Korea in the Taebaek Mountain Range.

Geographically, Taebaek is situated at 38 degrees north latitude and 129 degrees east longitude.

The city of Taebaek is an important cultural and historical center of the Republic of Korea and is regarded as the home of the nation and people. The city is also pivotal geographically on the peninsula, as the origins of the largest rivers in Korea originate in the Taebaek area, and Taebaek supplies drinking water to important parts of the country.

Mt. Taebaek, from

Mt. Taebaek Snow Festival

The Mt. Taebaek Snow Festival is held in January or February every year at Mt. Taebaek, which is famous for its natural winter scenery and winter climbing. Snow festival events are also held throughout the entire city of Taebaek and Mt. Taebaek Provincial Park and include a snow sculpture contest, a snow sledge riding contest, a nationwide snow photography contest, an amateur singing contest, a Mt. Taebaek climbing contest, and other winter events.

Taebaekje Festival

Taebaekje is a folk festival held in October every year. The festival heralds the past and present, culture and history, and involves Taebaek residents in traditional art, ritual, and sports.

Revitalizing a City

In 1960, Taebaek's main industry was coal mining, and the population of the city was 120 thousand. As the coal mining industry declined, the

Today, Taebaek is emphasizing the historical and cultural importance of the city in an effort to build tourism and leisure industries in harmony with the city's beautiful natural environment.

Soon Il Hong, mayor of Taebaek expects to benefit from membership in the IAMNC by exchanging ideas with other cities on these and other topics.

Taebaek web site
<http://taebaek.kangwon.kr/english.htm>

which the city takes its name, borders Taebaek and has particular national significance. In Korea, Mt. Taebaek is referred to as the spiritual mountain of the nation. The snow-covered landscape of Mt. Taebaek is one of the most scenic in the nation and it continuously attract many tourists. The nation's only sacred mountain is also the site of Dan-jong's Tombstone, Yongjung, Mangkyong-Sa, Janggun Rock, and Dankun Shrine. Mt. Taebaek can be climbed by people of all ages because of the mountain's gentle inclination.

Taebaek is also known for Mt. Taebaek Provincial Park, Taebaek Coal Museum, Mt. Taebaek Snow Festival, Taebaekje Festival, Mt. Taebaek Cool-Cinema Festival, Yongyeon Cave and its living fossils, and other attractions.

population dropped, and today it stands at around 60 thousand.

Maardu, Estonia

The city of Maardu in the Estonian Republic is located on the Baltic Sea's Gulf of Finland. The town of 15 thousand residents is 22.7 kilometers in area, and is the site of the port of Muuga in the northern part of the town. Muuga, which was constructed in 1986, received the Euromarket-93 Award and the modern port offers great potential for the town's role as a center for international trade, which is expected to play an important role in the economic development of the town.

Maardu is conveniently located only 15 kilometers from Tallinn, the capital of Estonia; only 80 kilometers from Helsinki; 320 kilometers from St. Petersburg, and only 300 kilometers from Riga, the capital of the Latvian Republic.

Phosphorite mining played an important role in the early development of Maardu; however, the mineral is no longer mined here because it has lost its profitability, and today the town is in the process of developing alternative industries.

Maardu received its status as a town in 1980. The mayor of Maardu is Georgy Bystrov.

I am happy with the opportunity to pass my greetings to all associated members of IAMNC and to the peoples of all the countries represented in this association.



The aim of every mayor is the dynamic development of the city he is the head of. Nowadays, we face big challenges in our changing world. The number of the problems we face is also increasing. Fighting poverty,



As mayor of Taebaek, I am very impressed with all the progress the members of the IAMNC have made in their winter cities. It is an honor for me to bring my city into the association, and we in Taebaek look forward to active exchanges with member cities.
?Soon Il Hong, mayor of Taebaek

crime, pollution, and many other problems is easier shoulder-by-shoulder with our colleagues.

I think that membership in the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities will help the people of the city of Maardu stand against the problems of the everyday life.

?Georgy Bystrov, mayor of Maardu

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Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters Working Against Inundation in Harbin

From a presentation at *Winter Cities 2000* by Yue Yuquan, Vice Mayor of Harbin.

The Songhua River, one of the largest rivers in China, winds throughout Harbin's jurisdictional area, and the city has experienced severe flooding three times during the past ten years—in 1991, 1994, and 1998. Floods of considerable severity have been experienced in Harbin more than 30

Harbin is the northernmost megalopolis in China, with a jurisdictional area of 53,000 square kilometers and a population of 9.6 million residents, including an urban population of 3.3 million. The Songhua River, one

Take the flood of 1998, for example. People from all walks of life took an active part in flood-control efforts; for a good period of more than 30 days when the flood was threatening us, a daily number of more than 200,000 people were at work along the 376 kilometers of banks along the river,

times in the 20th century, once every two or three years on the average, each causing significant economic losses.

The losses caused by the flooding of the Songhua have become greater with rapid urbanization and economic development.

of the largest rivers in China, winds through three jurisdictional districts and nine counties, covering a distance of 466 kilometres. In addition, there are 172 reservoirs of various sizes in the Harbin area.

checking for hidden dangers that might threaten the security of the embankment. Losses were reduced thanks to the government's preparation prior to the arrival of the floods.

? Flood-control projects
Having learned from floods of the past, the city launched new antiflood projects after the great flood of 1998, and the standard of embankment in urban areas has greatly increased. In the meantime, comprehensive projects are being implemented with constructional and non-constructional antiflood measures.

Current Precautionary Measures and Problems

The city of Harbin has taken seriously the issues of preventing the occurrence of floods and of reducing their destructive force, and the standard of antiflood projects in the city's urban areas has risen considerably.

Antiflood measures have helped effectively reduce the number of flood occurrences and the severity of the destruction caused by the floods. However, some problems remain in the city's efforts to reduce flooding and its consequences. For example, in some

Measures to Control Flooding

Harbin has obtained the following two important experiences from its flood-control efforts.

? Non-constructional measures against floods

The decisive factor in precautionary efforts against calamities caused by floods lies in the human regulation of watercourses. To succeed with flood-control projects, joint efforts between the government and people is an indispensable factor for minimizing losses.

More to Learn

Though Harbin has made considerable efforts, the city feels inferior to the advanced cities in other countries, and looks forward to sharing experiences and lessons.

areas along the Songhua River, there is no effective flood control. As flood-control projects frequently have to cover long distances and large areas, it is almost impossible, in a relatively short period of time, to attain a fairly high standard of antiflood activity.



Street scene in Harbin.

Another obstacle is that the hydrometric stations in the Songhua River Valley are equipped with insufficient flood measurement systems, and this hinders efficient flood precautionary projects. Thus, when a great flood comes, prompt actions are not readily taken. Finally, objects in the floodways are also a problem. The homes of fishermen, peasants, and others that have been built in floodways cannot be removed and have become obstacles.

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Development of Infrastructure in Nuuk Snow Removal and Civil Cooperation

From a presentation at *Winter Cities 2000* by Agnethe Davidsen,

Winter Road Conditions

In Nuuk municipality, there are approximately 59,800 square kilometers of asphalt roads, public squares, and paths.

Studded tires are used approximately six months a year, which involves heavy wear on roads. It is estimated that all cars in Nuuk are equipped with studded tires during this six-month period. The use of studded tires is motivated by safety considerations.

As a result of the use of studded tires, the most heavily trafficked roads lose 15 to 25 millimeters of their surface material in one winter. This means that the use of studded tires reduces pavement service life by approximately 20 percent every year.

Normally, wearing surfaces of roads are constructed using crushed stone. On certain test sections, we have tried to harden the wearing surface by using steel slag instead of crushed stone, and this has

The municipality of Nuuk, capital of Greenland, is about twice the size of Denmark and with 13 thousand residents is almost a quarter of the population of Greenland.

Nuuk receives considerable snowfall?approximately three meters and many severe snow storms. The average temperature in Nuuk in January is -8??C and in July, the warmest month, the average is +7??C.

Nuuk is situated about 257 kilometers south of the polar circle, and as a result, the sun rises at 10 A.M. and sets at 2:30 P.M. in December.

- ? preparation of duty rosters;
- ? drawing up of snow clearing districts;
- ? getting instructions to staff;
- ? preparation/supplementing/ replacement of equipment;
- ? purchase of sand and crushed stone.

Organization

The Technical and Environmental Administration is responsible for winter street maintenance. Nuuk is divided into 15 snow clearing districts, 14 of which are contracted out to private concerns. The city is in charge of clearing the one remaining district and areas surrounding public institutions. Nuuk is also in charge of management, quality assurance, clearing public mountain passages, crosswalks, bus stops, and prevention of slippery roads.

Outside normal working hours, Nuuk's roads are inspected by two engineers on duty in one-week shifts from mid-October to the beginning of May.

Apart from using city staff, Nuuk has agreements with the police, cab companies and others who inform the engineers on duty when deficiencies in the maintenance service are detected. If the supervising authority considers it necessary to

Winter

resulted in approximately 30 percent less wear compared to the areas where crushed stone is used. From an economic point of view this is not efficient, however, as steel slag has to be imported.

Winter Road Maintenance

Traffic safety, environment, and economic considerations are taken into account comprehensively when determining the winter maintenance level in Nuuk.

As it is difficult to calculate in advance how much money winter street maintenance will cost, the municipality calculates the budget for a "normal winter" in its climatic conditions.

Prewinter Planning

Before winter begins, it must be ensured that the necessary agreements have been made with city staff and with private contractors, and that the necessary equipment is available

Maintenance

Priorities

When winter comes to Nuuk, the municipality is well prepared, and plans and equipment are ready for use on 1 October.

For financial and environmental considerations, Nuuk's network of roads are divided into three categories according to service level.

• Class A: primary roads—those vital to public transportation and rescue (approximately 32 kilometers).

• Class B: main roads (approximately 32 kilometers).

• Class C: other, including public parking lots (approximately 24 kilometers).

These roads must be passable between 6:30 A.M. and 10 P.M. seven days a week. Snow clearing is normally carried out between 5:30 A.M. and 10 P.M. on weekdays.

implement measures to prevent slippery roads or clear snow, the necessary staff will be dispatched.

Machinery and Equipment

Nuuk is situated in one of the most exposed places regarding winter weather; however, smaller machinery and cars owned by the city ensure excellent interaction with private contractors and provide the required service levels.

Consultants

Nuuk makes use of private consultants for a wide range of tasks, including supervision relating to construction, local development, and environmental surveys, in addition to winter road maintenance. The use of local consultants guarantees residents reliable service, and from an economic point of view, it has been working very well.

Nuuk web site
www.nuuk.gl

and in working order.

This work includes?

- ? updating winter maintenance guidelines;
- ? obtaining agreements with staff and other authorities;
- ? obtaining agreements with private contractors;

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Snow Management in Prince George— A Customer Service Approach

From a presentation at *Winter Cities 2000* by Colin Kinsley, mayor of Prince George, British Columbia.

In 1976, an article titled "Don't Like Icy Streets? Move Somewhere Else?" appeared in a Prince George newspaper. The article quoted the director of public works in Prince George.

During the winter of 1990-91, the mass media heavily criticized the city of Prince George for the city's relatively poor response to a snowstorm. The community perceived city snow-removal crews as inefficient and ineffective. At that time, snow management

Prince George

*The Prince George Public Works Department has responsibility for maintaining over 629 kilometers of roads within the municipality. Prince George has a population of 80,250 (1998).
Normal snowfall: 225 cm
Daily high in January: -5.8°C
Daily low in January: -14.1°C
Annual snow disposal: 300,000 tons
Paved roads: 540 km (multi-lanes)
Gravel roads: 90 km (two lanes)
Paved sidewalks: 150 km*

Mayor's Special Committee for Snow Management

? two city councilors;

Operational Changes Include?

- ? opening driveways;
- ? faster cleanup in residential areas;
- parking restrictions and use of the mass media;
- ? significant changes in city and rental equipment;
- ? emphasis on operator availability and training;
- ? close river-front snow disposal sites;
- ? experiment with alternative abrasives and deicers;
- ? snow and ice control budget.

operations were budget driven.

Today, things are different. Winter street maintenance policy in Prince George is service driven, and the community has demonstrated their support for the delivery of our current policies. This new attitude is the result of a series of changes initiated by the Prince George City Council.

Mayor and Council Commitment

The Prince George mayor and city council wanted snow management that reflected their commitment to the community. The principles of snow management that support the city's mission were identified as those which:

- ? provide mobility for people and goods throughout the city;
- ? maximize vehicular and pedestrian safety;
- ? improve the quality of winter life in the community.

Operational Objectives

- ? city manager;
- ? director of public works;
- ? operations manager;
- ? streets division supervisor;
- ? financial officer;
- ? bylaw officer;
- ? two street foremen;
- ? two equipment operators;
- ? equipment trainer;
- ? parks foreman;
- ? auxiliary members.

Key Concepts of Prince George Policy

- ? snow policy is service driven;
- ? support and trust;
- ? high crew morale;
- ? excellent communications;
- ? innovation and continuous improvement;
- ? public satisfaction.

Snow Removal Policy

Streets

- 1st priority: plowed when snow is more than 75 mm;
- 2nd priority: plowed when snow is more than 100 mm.

Sidewalks

Sidewalks are plowed when snow is more than 50 mm in depth.

Results

The attitude of the public toward snow maintenance operations in Prince George has changed dramatically in recent years. Snow operations are effectively delivered, and the public's ever changing needs and desires are being addressed. The city council's mission to provide an excellent quality of life is being supported by our snow maintenance operations.

Community Reactions

The following editorial from the *Prince George Citizen* represents the kinds of comments Prince George has received on its present snow maintenance policy, and the editorial suggests that the community is pleased.

Job Well Done

The city's road crews are to be commended for a great job of clearing the big dump of snow we received early this week (45 cm).

In many cities, the

- ? allow reasonable accessibility for pedestrians to travel throughout the city;
- ? allow a properly equipped vehicle to easily access and drive on all city roads;
- ? meet public expectations in managing snow and ice.

Off-street walkways are not plowed.

Use Equipment That Offers Better Service

snow clearing crews will clear the streets, leaving huge mountains of snow at the end of your driveway. Not in Prince George, where they clear the end of your driveway.

The city workers are to be congratulated for the work they do...one senses they go the extra mile here.?

? 6 January 2000

Prince George web site www.city.pg.bc.ca

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Anchorage Subcommittee Optimistic Winter Tourism Potential Stressed

From a subcommittee report at *Winter Cities 2000* by Rick Mystrom, mayor of Anchorage.

Rick Mystrom, mayor of Anchorage, Alaska and chairman of the IAMNC Research Subcommittee on Winter Tourism and Recreation reported on the work of the subcommittee at Winter Cities 2000.

Promote Winter

Developing and promoting our winter tourism sector is a realistic goal, given the

Kiruna

Kiruna, Sweden, is known around the world for its use of winter resources in the construction of the Ice Hotel, as well as for the city's ability to involve corporations to support the hotel. Kiruna is also host of the largest snow festival in Europe.

Anchorage

Ideas About

Winter? Traditional ideas and conceptions about winter tourism must be overcome.

Sophisticated

Visitors? Winter tourists are often more affluent and better educated than summer tourists, and we are, therefore, challenged to meet their expectations so they return to our winter

abundance of winter tourism assets we in the north collectively share.

These include?

- ? landscape and scenery of unsurpassed natural beauty;
- ? access to vast open spaces and wilderness;
- ? an abundance of nature's most beautiful and versatile elements: snow and ice;
- ? spectacular phenomenon and quality of light unique to the north;
- ? a rich abundance of wildlife;
- ? world-class winter recreation and sports opportunities;
- ? unique winter festivals and events that enliven even the darkest days of the year;
- ? a great diversity of quality cultural activities;
- ? an understanding of how to enjoy winter.

Unique IAMNC Cities

Each of our member cities has its own unique assets to offer tourists, and each city celebrates winter in its

The residents of Anchorage, Alaska, have established many winter sports, recreational, and cultural events including the annual Iditarod dog-sled races, its one hundred kilometers of cross-country ski trails within the city, and its new Native Heritage Center.

Luleå

Luleå, Sweden, offers historic sites, cultural excursions that allow visitors to experience the Saami culture, and the Luleå Arctic Festival.

Harbin

Think of Harbin, China, and the world-famous Ice Lantern Festival comes to mind, a 25-year tradition. This spectacular event has encouraged the development of world-class ice and snow artists.

Sapporo

The Sapporo Snow Festival is only one of the many winter festivals in Hokkaido, Japan. The area also offers superb hot springs and health

cities and encourage others to come.

Solutions

Exchange

Information? Models of our success can be instructive to all members of the IAMNC. For example, building heat in Anchorage is used to melt snow on sidewalks. We need to improve the quality of life for resident and tourist alike.

Clever

Marketing? Compensate or entice tourists.

Wakkanai, Japan, entices tourists with a free crab dinner for each air traveler to the town. Specialties, such as the extreme skiing opportunities in Aomori, attract niche travelers. We can overcome travel costs by emphasizing the unique experience of a northern visit.

Pool Marketing

Resources? Some Scandinavian IAMNC cities work together to develop brochures and other marketing tools. Internet links between winter cities may be an economical way to get out the word about

own distinctive manner.

Aomori

Aomori's four-day Winter Festival attracts 28 thousand visitors to the city. The city has also developed a niche market for extreme skiing. Aomori provides opportunities for recreational and cultural tourism and has the largest prehistory archaeological site in Japan.

Troms?

Troms?, Norway, has been successful in marketing unusual vacations. It offers excursions for viewing the aurora borealis, and winter safaris have also become popular for adventuresome tourists.

spas that are particularly inviting in winter.

Winter City

Challenges

Winter

Safety? Making winter tourist destinations safe and accessible for visitors, particularly pedestrians, is one of the most formidable challenges. This includes safe roads and public transportation to winter festival sites.

High Costs? One trend indicates that people are choosing destinations closer to home. One of the reasons may be the lack of direct and economical travel links to winter cities.

Marketing

Resources? Winter city destinations often have small populations, meaning that budgets for marketing tourism are not great.

winter destinations.

Change

Perceptions?

We ought to focus attention on the unique opportunities for fun and recreation and the beauty of the north. We also should take greater advantage of the Internet.

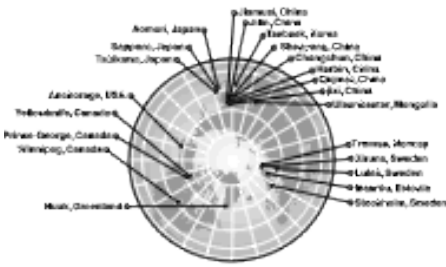
Please Visitors?

We must meet visitors' expectations so that they come back. Good planning, unique events and activities, and quality accommodations and facilities combine to make a visitor's stay both comfortable and exciting.

Anchorage web site
www.ci.anchorage.ak.us

For Sustainable Winter Cities Waste Reduction and Recycling

From a report at *Winter Cities 2000* by Nils Tiberg, professor, Luleå University of Technology.



Welcome to WinterNet!

? Become an IAMNC

member

? Trade Winter City

Information

? Learn About

Member Cities

? Get Conference Information

? Check Out the Winter

Cities Link

The new, official web site of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities welcomes visitors and encourages opinions, information exchanges, and participation in an on-line forum.

The goal of the IAMNC is to provide the world's winter cities with an opportunity to share ideas and concerns, and the IAMNC WinterNet web site has been established to

The subcommittee for Waste Reduction and Recycling was established by a resolution at the sixth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors in Anchorage in 1994 in response to a questionnaire that had indicated a strong interest in this topic by member cities. Luleå has served as the secretariat of the subcommittee.

Nils Tiberg presented the work of the subcommittee at the Mayors Conference in Luleå. He reported that although IAMNC cities have various definitions of waste treatment and different treatment systems, all cities face the challenge of developing more efficient systems for sustainable waste reduction and recycling, and all can learn from each other.

Why So Much Waste?

The subcommittee investigated three food systems for generation of waste and use of energy.

? business as usual:

the system that typifies industrial countries? economic growth is necessary to fund environmental protection;

? producer

responsibility:

producers, consumers, and legislators cooperate to reduce waste and encourage recycling;

? local food chain:

individuals are more or less self-sufficient in food production.

The local food chain system has been developed in Luleå over a period of four years. The system requires 2000 kWh to provide food for one person for one year? one-fifth of the energy of the usual food system. The waste generated is practically nil. Return packing is used and unpolluted food waste is composted locally.

enhance the efficient exchanges of information.

In addition to information about the IAMNC, the web site is a source for a variety of information about winter cities, including municipal policies and technology, and with links to other winter cities, the site is a means to search for solutions and to discuss winter city issues.

The IAMNC welcomes comments, ideas, and winter city news. Submit items directly on-line at (www.iamnc.org), or write to the Secretariat, IAMNC, City of Sapporo, Kita-1, Nishi-2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8611 Japan. E-mail contact: (sec@iamnc.org).

www.iamnc.org

At one time there were relatively good recycling systems in place in Europe. Metal, glass, rags, bones, and organic wastes were collected and sorted for reuse. However, as production expanded rapidly after World War II, more purchasing power was created and the amount of waste increased drastically as the cost of labor increased faster than the cost of energy, making it inefficient to recycle.

The Luleå? subcommittee found that if waste management is regarded as a specialized activity at the "backyard of society," then the possibilities of solving waste problems are very limited. If instead we regard waste as an indicator of a need for restructuring society in the direction of sustainability, then the possibilities are great. This means getting everyone in society involved?producers, residents, politicians, and administrators alike.

When we regard waste as an indicator of a need for new

The Luleå? subcommittee found that only the local system met the demands of sustainability, and concluded that more attention should be given to the efficiency that the local food chain can provide?that it is worthy of more evaluation and support from the establishment. Local food chains appear in many forms around the world, and the special conditions that relate to climate will be studied at the new Eco-Arena in Luleå?.

The challenge of sustainable development calls for new system solutions. Solid waste must be reduced at the same time that energy use is reduced. To change a system in an orderly manner calls for open dialogue and for exchanges of experiences with different systems. The special challenge of sustainable development in northern climates can be the focus of continued exchanges of knowledge and experience among winter cities, using the

systems and for a restructuring of society, then exchanges of information among cities with experience with different systems becomes of real interest.

Food System

Waste

The food system generates the main part of household waste as packaging and organic food waste. It accounts for the main part of water pollution and a considerable part of heavy road transportation.

Internet and the tools for information systems introduced in this report.

Waste Reduction and Recycling web site
www.grogrund.net/wintercities1/main.html

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Subcommittee Work Completed by Tromsø

Economic Expansion in Northern Cities

From a subcommittee report at *Winter Cities 2000* by Alvhild Ytterg?rd.

Alvhild Ytterg?rd, former mayor of Troms?, Norway, and chairperson of the Research Subcommittee on Economic Expansion in Northern Cities, concluded the work of the subcommittee with a presentation at the IAMNC board meeting in Lule? on February



Alvhild Ytterg?rd discusses the work of the subcommittee.

The project, by Hanne Andersen from the

15.

The subcommittee on Economic Expansion was established by a resolution at the seventh Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors in Winnipeg, Canada on February 12, 1996 with the purpose to catalogue and map existing business development resources and to collect, collate, and develop means to evaluate development plans for member cities.

At an IAMNC meeting in Sapporo on October 1996, the subcommittee enumerated the following goals:

- ? to establish strong networks among businesses in winter cities;
- ? to establish a permanent secretariat for the development of industry and commerce in winter cities; and
- ? to establish financial and administrative schemes for increasing creativity in winter cities.

The subcommittee comprised the winter cities of Sapporo, Changchun,, Anchorage, Winnipeg,

University of Tromsø, examined business development strategies at local levels of government in Kiruna and Takikawa. The project goal was to learn what business development strategies are used by the two cities and to discover the impact winter has on the development strategies.

A second study has been proposed by Ann G?ril Kvalheim, who wishes to do a comparative study on government assistance programs in the six cities of the subcommittee. The goal of this project is to learn what kinds of export assistance programs the various cities and countries on the subcommittee offer. The student wants to look at how the government can help businesses that want to join the process of globalization.

Subcommittee Assessment

On the achievements of the subcommittee on Economic Expansion in Northern Cities, Ms Ytterg?rd made the following observations.

?It has in general been quite a challenge to fulfill the mandate and goals of the subcommittee. We have found the topic, ?economic expansion in northern regions,?f rather difficult in itself. In my opinion the mandate was not concrete enough and the ambitions of the city of Tromsø have been too high. Unfortunately, we did not meet enough interest and enthusiasm in the

Success Story

One of the subcommittee success stories is that of Kjell Magne Maelen, executive director of the Tromsø Performing Arts Centre, who was awarded a grant from the Scandinavian-Japan Sasakawa Foundation in order to conduct a study tour of Sapporo in October 1999. The tour objective was to further develop relations between the winter cities of Tromsø and Sapporo by exploring opportunities for exchanges and cooperation in the field of the arts and to deepen insight into the expectations that Japanese visitors have for their visits to

Kiruna, Luleå, and Tromsø.

Status of the Work

The subcommittee met in Tromsø in June 1997 with six members in attendance, and a report was made at the eighth Mayors Conference in 1998 in Harbin, China. A meeting of the subcommittee was planned for 1999, but the full membership was not able to get together. Tromsø, Luleå, and Kiruna met in Copenhagen, and in October 1999, Sapporo, Luleå, Kiruna, and Tromsø met in Anchorage, Alaska.

Subcommittee

Student Projects

Ms Yttergørd reviewed the student project that was established as part of the original mandate to map existing business development resources in member cities and to find means to evaluate development plans in the cities.

business and research environment in Tromsø.

Ms Yttergørd also reported that the subcommittee did not succeed in receiving outlines of the activities to promote economic expansion from many member cities of the subcommittee. She also reported that WinterPartnership and its Business-to-Business concept, a project introduced at the Mayors Conference in Harbin, had not gotten the participation that enthusiasm for the idea suggested.

Ms Yttergørd announced that the city of Tromsø was concluding the work of the subcommittee.

Tromsø and northern Norway. In Sapporo, Mr. Maelen met with enormous interest for Scandinavia and for developing relations.

At Winter Cities 2000, Ms Yttergørd also stressed that Nordkalotten, Norway, profited from membership in Winter Cities. "In northern Sweden, Finland, and Norway, we have learned to make use of snow as a raw material and to create new products to promote winter tourism. Snow festivals, ice sculptures, and the like are "products" that have been developed with inspiration from the winter cities movement," she said.

Development in China of The Culture of Ice and Snow

Special report to the Northern Intercity News by Ding Naijin, mayor of Jixi City, Hei Longjiang

In China, the culture of ice and snow has been shaped over a long period of time by those who use the resources of ice and snow in their natural winter environment.

Historically, the culture of ice and snow has involved the activities ? an example of which is skiing ? of the peoples living in the northern part of China. Skiing was originally adopted for hunting in about 200 B.C., and it has evolved into the sport of skiing as we know it today. Evidence indicates that sports on ice in China originated in the Song Dynasty, when they were called ?ice-fun.? In the beginning of the Qing Dynasty, ice skating was the favorite winter sport of the Man people who lived in northern China, where skating was called ?skating-fun-race.? The authorities of the Qing Dynasty attached great importance to

The resources of ice and snow are the outcomes of light, heat, water, air, and climatic conditions. As material energy for use in the agricultural industry and in culture, ice and snow are very important natural resources that can be reprocessed. The distribution of these resources is limited, however, and if they are not treated properly, they may be exhausted or polluted and cause an ecological imbalance and serious consequences to industrial and agricultural production and to life on earth. Mismanagement of our ice and snow resources will be accompanied by increasing costs.

The development of ice and snow resources greatly influences industrial and agricultural production and cultural and economic development. We must

the resources of ice and snow and many are adopting measures to protect these natural resources and develop them carefully. In the frigid zones of China, the governments of Hei Longjiang Province and Harbin City in particular have made great contributions to the development of local resources of ice and snow.

Nevertheless, there is inefficient use of these resources. For example, the utilization of the ice and snow resources of the Songhua River and Ya Buli is far from enough. We should fully develop these ice and snow resources and deeply expand ice and snow tourism as well as economies based on a culture of ice and snow.

Benefits of Ice and Snow

With regard to our ecological environment, freezing rivers and streams are

skating and regarded it as an important activity in palace exhibitions and in the training of troops. Skating-race? gradually developed into the popular winter sport of ice-skating.

Although the historical and social phenomena of the culture of ice and snow have existed for a long time, the more theoretical study of ice and snow has begun only recently. What is needed now is a comprehensive study encompassing the historic, geographic, anthropological, ecological, sociological, and economic features of the culture of ice and snow, including the development of the resources of ice and snow.

Management of Ice and Snow

The evolution of the culture of ice and snow in China continues; there is an increasing interest in ice and snow by both tourists and by companies here and from overseas.

Natural resources, as universal matter in

fully understand the important roles of the resources of ice and snow and their economic benefits so that the resources may be put to rational use and increase our standard of living.

We must fully understand the important roles of the resources of ice and snow and their economic benefits so that the resources may be put to rational use and increase our standard of living. Ding Naijin, mayor of Jixi City

Developing the Resources

The resources of ice and snow are the material bases for the development of the culture of ice and snow. In the northern part of China, there are great ice and snow resources and a rich labor force, and we need to treasure the natural resources and develop them thoughtfully. With a shortage of technology and capital, we need to combine our rich labor force with ice and

important to ice-transport services. Land covered with ice and snow is a natural sports playground. Snow cover maintains ground temperature and is beneficial to bacterial propagation in the ground and to the decomposition of organic matter, and it increases soil fertility. Snowmelt moistens grasslands and fields, irrigates farmlands, and supplies the urban ice-manufacturing industry with raw materials.

Effective development of the resources of ice and snow may hasten the development of local tourism and promote culture. In addition, ice and snow resources are advantageous to our health, and ice and snow may provide people living in the north with effective ways to improve their health. The economic development of the culture of ice and snow may help increase the standard of living in urban and rural communities in the north.

In spite of the unpleasant disasters

the shape of energy, are of course limitless, but as matter for use, they are limited.

snow resources so we can gain the best economic benefits.

At present, many countries in frigid zones are aggressively trying to develop

that are sometimes the result of ice and snow, these two resources offer many benefits. Developing these resources and preventing disasters are two of our challenges.

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The Culture of Ice and Snow in China

In recent years, the development of the culture of ice and snow has made considerable progress in northern China, where people are attaching a growing importance to ice and snow as a tourism resource. As a result, government enterprises and individuals have begun to develop and use ice and snow resources in a variety of ways, and this is good in my opinion. The government should encourage, support, and offer guidance for the proper and orderly development of the resources of ice and snow.

from ice festivals and snow sculpturing exhibitions to winter sports and studies of ice and snow and winter tourism.

Regarding art in ice and snow, we should begin with ice and snow landscapes and sculptures in exhibitions and proceed to competitions for the entire community. We should make all members of the community feel that they are part of the culture of ice and snow.

Large winter exhibitions and ice and snow events that require large investments must earn a financial return; those events which require only a small investment should not be expected to be profitable. We must

Much more can and should be done. In my opinion, Harbin is the center of ice and snow culture in our province, and the government ought to construct an exhibition center to display fine works of ice and snow culture. The function of the center would be to display the history of ice and snow culture and fine works of art so people can understand and appreciate the development of the culture of ice and snow.

Hei Longjiang is in the frigid zone of northern China. Only by making full use of the ice and snow resources and by promoting and studying the culture of ice and snow can we create a better cultural atmosphere and promote the economic

Broad Development of

the Culture of Ice and Snow

All persons in the community should be encouraged to get involved in developing the culture of ice and snow, and everyone needs to understand that ice and snow are natural wealth that can be exploited for the good of the community. We should also encourage open discussions of views on how the culture of ice and snow can be developed.

Steps Toward the Development and Use of Ice and Snow

In developing the culture and resources of ice and snow, we should move from one level to the next?for example,

start by increasing the artistic quality of winter events and by stressing the development of ice and snow exhibitions which are not for profit and limit ice and snow exhibitions for profit.

Increasing the Benefits of Ice and Snow Culture

In recent years, there have been economic gains obtained through the development of the culture of ice and snow. The economic gains have not been great, however, because we have only begun to exploit ice and snow in this way.

and cultural standing of Hei Longjiang in northeast Asia. Through international exchanges that accompany many ice and snow events, we will help standardize the meaning of the culture of ice and snow and propel the culture of ice and snow forward.

These activities are of practical significance. The theoretical significance is to guide us to study the relations between human beings and nature and to coordinate the development and coexistence of nature and society and make sustained development possible.

*Everyone needs to understand that ice and snow are natural wealth that can be exploited for the good of the community.
?Ding Naijin, mayor of Jixi City*

