



## Greetings from the New IAMNC President

*Ueda Fumio is president of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities. Mr. Ueda was elected mayor of Sapporo last spring.*

I am pleased to greet you as the new president of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC).

Although winter poses many challenges to the inhabitants of northern regions, winter is also a blessing that brings much charm and allure to our cities.

With the conviction that winter is a resource and an asset, the first Mayors Conference was convened in 1982. Since then it has taken place biennially in cities in Asia, North America, and Europe with the purpose of giving winter-city mayors an opportunity to gather together and share knowledge regarding city planning and to discuss problems that face cities experiencing harsh cold and heavy snow-falls.

With the addition of the Winter Cities Forum and the Winter Expo to the Mayors Conference, the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors has become an important assembly for representatives from industry, academia, and government organizations, as well as a conduit for projects

at local levels and a vital network for winter cities.

Due to the advances in communication and increases in information and globalization in recent years, there has been a major increment in the number of exchanges among cities at the international level. In order to create livable and healthy cities where people can enjoy



*Mayor Ueda Fumio, president, International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities.*

winter, I want to strengthen these bonds among winter cities through the enactment of the IAMNC revitalization plan and stimulate the overall growth of all winter cities.

As the IAMNC president, I will do my utmost to help plan for the overall development of winter cities where residents can live comfortably.



## Anchorage Winter Cities 2004 February 18-22

With just one month to go, the Winter Cities 2004 organizing committee in Anchorage is putting the final touches on what is sure to be one of the most successful conferences to date.

This is the second opportunity Anchorage has had to host this conference. The 1994 conference in Anchorage was one of the most successful, with many delegates visiting Anchorage for the first time. We are excited to invite many of these delegates back for a second time, in addition to new friends who will be coming to our city from around the world.

This year's theme, "Challenging Winter Frontiers: Health, Cultural Heritage, Rural Outreach and Technology," will bring with it a wide range of forum topics and technical tours, meeting a wide range of winter city issues and challenges.

*Please see page three.*

**Winter is a resource and asset.**

**"Although winter poses many challenges to the citizens of northern regions, it is also a blessing that brings much charm and allure to our cities."**

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

The Northern Intercity News is published by the city of Sapporo and is an official publication of the Secretariat of the

International Association of MAYORS OF NORTHERN CITIES

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# *Anchorage* Mayors Conference Program

February 18–22, 2004

# Winter is Hot!

## **Wednesday, February 18**

08:00 Board Meeting for Mayors

10:30 Opening Ceremonies and  
Keynote Address

12:00 Lunch hosted by the mayor  
of Anchorage

13:45 Transfer to the Winter Cities  
Expo @ Pac Com (VIP room  
available to all Mayors)

18:00 Opening Reception

## **Thursday, February 19**

08:30 Mayors General Assembly

11:30 Lunch

14:00 Youth and Citizen Forum

17:00 Official Opening and Ribbon  
Cutting Ceremony of the Winter  
Cities International Marketplace

18:00 Mayors Dinner, hosted by the  
IAMNC and the Municipality of  
Anchorage

## **Friday, February 20**

08:00 General Session and Keynote  
Address

09:30 Board of Directors Meeting  
Presentation by candidate cities  
bidding for 2008

10:30 Board of Directors Meeting  
Selection Meeting for 2008 Site

12:00 Lunch

13:30 Subcommittee Reports

18:00 Fur Rendezvous Fireworks  
(optional)

19:00 2006 Host City Reception

## **Saturday, February 21**

08:00 General Session and Keynote  
Address

09:30 Mayors Conference  
Session—Winter Cities Designs:  
Satellite Town Centers

11:30 Lunch

13:30 Mayors Conference Session—  
The Role of the Sports  
Community in the Develop-  
ment of Municipal Services and  
Venues

18:00 Cultural Night

## **Sunday, February 22**

09:00 Conference Plenary  
Session and Wrap-Up Round-  
Table

11:30 Closing Ceremonies

13:00 Alaska Railroad Adventure  
Lunch aboard the Alaska Railroad  
as it travels South to Portage and  
back



*Continued from page one.*

The eleventh biennial International Conference of Mayors of Northern Cities, the Winter Cities Forum, and the ninth International Winter Expo will see several highlights throughout the week. Each day will start off with a General Session for both mayors and Forum delegates to gather together and learn from each other.

The eleventh Mayors Conference will feature exchanges of ideas and policies for building sustainable winter cities, the biennial board of directors meeting, and conference sessions on "Winter Cities Designs: Satellite Town Centers" and "The Role of the Sports Community in the Development of Municipal Services and Venues." Subcommittee reports will also be given in the areas of Snow Management, Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters, Measures Against Terrorism in Northern Cities, and Sustainable Winter Cities Planning.

#### **Conference Registration**

Persons interested in participating in the conference may download the registration form at <[www.wintercities2004.org](http://www.wintercities2004.org)>. If you would like a packet sent to your address, you may request one at <[info@wintercities2004.org](mailto:info@wintercities2004.org)>.

#### **IAMNC and Winter Cities Forum Keynote Address**

Martin Buser, four-time winner of the



*Martin Buser, Iditarod sled-dog champion and keynote speaker at the IAMNC Mayors Conference and Forum.*

Iditarod sled-dog championship, will give the keynote address at the opening ceremonies of the IAMNC Mayors Conference and Forum.

Martin runs this grueling 1049-mile race each year with his dogs to test the success of their breeding, training, and physical endurance. He regards his racers as true competitive athletes and prides himself on his team's longevity and spirit of competition. He will speak on living and training in a winter environment.

#### **Winter Cities Forum and Technical Tours**

The Winter Cities Forum and Technical Tours comprise many sessions encompassing one or more of the theme areas of society and culture; energy and environment; construction techniques; economy and planning; health and medicine; security and safety; snow removal; rural outreach and urban

growth; cold weather engineering, and cold weather effects on studded tires. Please see [www.wintercities2004.org](http://www.wintercities2004.org) for a detailed listing of all session topics and speakers as well as the week's schedule.

#### **Winter Cities Showcase: Two Trade Shows**

The Winter Cities Showcase will consist of two trade shows: the Winter Cities Showcase at Pac Com from February 18-19, and the Winter Cities International Marketplace at the Egan Civic and Convention Center, February 19-22, four days of international culture and business products exchanges. Each show will offer many winter city business opportunities and cultural exchanges.

#### **Additional Events at Winter Cities 2004**

The Mayors, Youth and Citizen Forum will bring educational opportunities to the citizens of Alaska when they meet with mayors from other cities and learn about the unique winter challenges of the cities the mayors represent.

An International Cultural Variety Show will showcase the many diverse performing arts of the international communities represented at Winter Cities 2004. The performances will take place on Saturday, February 21 at 7 PM at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

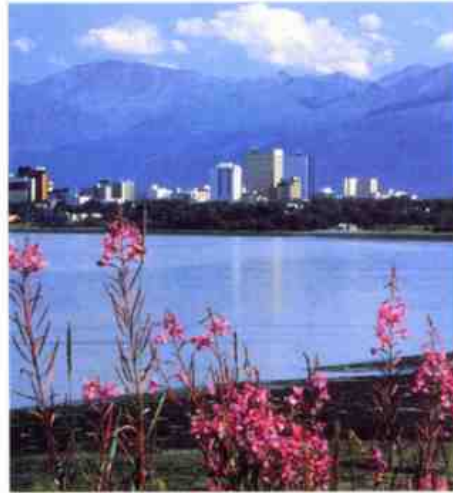
# Anchorage and Alaska

Anchorage is Alaska's largest city with 261,000 residents, or about 42 percent of the state's population. With a total population of about 622,000, there is nearly one square mile per person in Alaska.

Anchorage sits at the base of the Chugach Mountains along the coast of Cook Inlet in southcentral Alaska.

Three of Alaska's 39 mountain ranges can be seen from Anchorage: the Chugach, Kenai, and Alaska ranges. Mount McKinley, although it is a 379 km drive north, can be seen from downtown Anchorage on clear days. At 6,194 meters, Mount McKinley is the highest mountain in North America.

The average temperature in Anchorage in July is 65°F (18.3°C), (much like San Francisco). February averages 26°F (-3.3°C), creating a climate very much like ski resorts in the Rocky Mountains, Canada, or Europe.



*A glimpse of Anchorage.*

## Alaska

There are approximately one hundred thousand glaciers in Alaska. Portage

Glacier, just 72 km south of downtown Anchorage, is one of Alaska's most visited attractions.

Alaska is the most northern, western, and eastern point in the United States. The Aleutian Chain extends into the eastern hemisphere; the city is as far north as Helsinki, Finland; and it is nearly as west as Honolulu, Hawaii. Anchorage's central location on the globe makes it convenient to reach by air, by land, and by sea from anywhere in the world!

### Alaska Superlatives

- Alaska is one-fifth the size of the contiguous United States.
- Wood-Tikchik State Park comprises 1.6 million acres of wilderness in southwest near Dillingham.
- The March 1994 Alaska earthquake registered 9.2 on the Richter scale.

# City of Many Traditions Ulaanbaatar

Ulaanbaatar is the capital city of Mongolia. Its recorded history goes back some three hundred and fifty years. The term "city" was an unfamiliar concept in Mongolia during most of this period, however, and the nomadic settlement moved some thirty times after its founding in 1639. Temporary locations were along the valleys of the Orkhon, Selenge, and Tuul rivers in north-central Mongolia. The city finally settled in its current location in 1778, when the Tea Road, the overland trade route from Peking to St. Petersburg, made Ulaanbaatar an important commercial center.

The name of the city has also changed a number of times. From 1639 to 1706 it was known as Orgoo, from the Mongolian word for palace. From 1706 to 1911 the name was Ikh

Khuree, and from 1911 to 1924 it was Niisiel Kjuree. For most of this time the West knew the city as Urga. Since October 29, 1924, the name has been Ulaanbaatar, which means red hero in the Mongolian language.

In the period since 1921, Ulaanbaatar has advanced from a small town to

a modern city with developed industry, trade, infrastructure, education, culture, and science. Today the city of Ulaanbaatar is the political, cultural, economic, and transportation center of Mongolia.

Almost one third of Mongolia's population now lives in Ulaanbaatar. While the city's population was only eighty thousand in 1954, today the population stands at 778,300, two thirds of which are children and young people under the age of twenty-five.

Manufacturing industries in Ulaanbaatar include woolen textiles and related goods, leather products and footwear, soap, paper, iron castings, cement, glassware, beer and spirits, and processed foods. Coal is mined nearby and provides power for the city.



*Bogd Khan Winter Palace Museum, Ulaanbaatar.*



# Taebaek

## Highland Resort Town

The five-thousand-year-old city of Taebaek is located in the center of the Taebaek Mountains, which form the spine of the Korean peninsula and which are the source of the Han and Nakdong Rivers—vital mainstays of the nation.

The city's Mt. Taebaek is one of the nation's twelve famous mountains, and a source of abundant tourist attractions.

Taebaek is the economic, social, cultural, and educational center of the Kangwon southern region. The city is easily accessible from all directions.

Taking advantage of the unique highland climate of the city's aver-

- Population: 56,193 people
- Area: 303.53km<sup>2</sup>
- Location: 37° north latitude



age elevation of 650 meters, the slogan "Let's sell the white snowy winter and cool summer" orchestrates the sixty-thousand residents of Taebaek to work as a unit to develop diverse tourist attractions, including festivals and sightseeing.

*The Taebaek Winter Festival is held between late January and early February at Mt. Taebaek. This festival includes a variety of events such as night performances that mark the beginning of the festival, a snow sculpture contest, a national climbing contest, and a snowman-family making contest. Okung sledge riding, which is unique to Mt. Taebaek, is also popular.*

# Prince George

Nestled in the heartland of British Columbia, Prince George serves up one of the most authentic blends of big city pleasure and backwoods adventure in Canada.

Located almost smack in the middle of the province, it is a geographical fact that all roads lead to Prince George. The city is the regional centre of business, government, and culture in the northern half of the province. As the population of Prince George grows, eco-tourism, technology, and small business entrepreneurs are pushing the wave of progress.

### The Great Outdoors

Ten minutes in any direction from downtown brings you into contact with the great outdoors of Northern British Columbia. It's no wonder that, with countless lakes and rivers, hundreds of miles of hiking, biking, and cross-country trails, and four seasons of

## Big City Pleasure, Backwoods Adventure



*Prince George Civic Center and Clock Tower.*

A thriving arts community complements this sports-crazy town. And when they aren't doing, Prince Georgians are watching. Fans of the Western Hockey League's Prince George Cougars are acknowledged as some of the loudest and proudest in Canada. The city is home to theatre and dance companies, a symphony orchestra, hundreds of musicians, promoters, writers and artisans, and brand new class "A" art gallery.

In the midst of all this bustling activity, of course, are the people. Prince George wouldn't be Prince George were it not for the people who live here. But then casual amiability and a willingness to welcome all with open arms is not so much a personality trait as it is a natural consequence of living in a place where there is so much to grab on to.

activity, Prince Georgians are what you call fanatical about their recreation.



## Ulaanbaatar 2003 Working-Level Officials Meeting

The 2003 Working-Level Officials Meeting of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities was convened in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from September 13 through 16, 2003. Forty-one representatives from nine cities and six countries participated in the meeting, including Anchorage, U.S.A.; Changchun, Jixi and Shenyang, China; Aomori and Sapporo, Japan; Taebaek, Korea; Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; and Maardu, Estonia.

### Revitalization of IAMNC

On the first day of the Working-Level Officials Meeting, delegates discussed ways in which to revitalize the IAMNC, and they exchanged opinions on increasing membership, changing the organization's name, collaborating on events, and other issues suggested by the secretariat. At the eleventh Mayors Conference to be convened in Anchorage in February 2004, mayors will discuss a final plan for revitalization.

### Anchorage Conference

On the second day of the meeting, Dick Stallone, chairman of Anchorage Winter Cities 2004, outlined the Anchorage Conference scheduled for February 18 through 22, and Mark Premo presented plans for the Winter Cities Forum.

Jim Gorski of the board of directors of Winter Cities 2004 proposed two themes for sessions at the conference: "The Role of the Sports Community in the Development of Municipal Services and Venues" and "Winter Cities Designs: Satellite Town Centers."

George Cannelos, executive director of the Heritage Land Band of the Municipality of Anchorage, announced a winter city design contest for northern city youth in conjunction with Mayors Conference.

### IAMNC Subcommittees

Two of the four IAMNC subcommittees

also convened in Ulaanbaatar in conjunction with the Working-Level Officials Meeting: the Subcommittee for Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters, and the Subcommittee for Sustainable Winter City Planning.

Uda Sumiyoshi, director of the Disaster Prevention Department of the Sapporo Fire Bureau and secretariat of the Subcommittee for Countermeasures against Natural Disasters reported on disasters in northern cities.

Sato Kenichi, deputy mayor of Aomori, secretariat city, chaired the meeting of the Subcommittee for Sustainable Winter Cities Planning and reported on research conducted on sustainable winter city planning around the world, and on city planning policies of IAMNC member cities.

The Ulaanbaatar Working-Level Officials Meeting was the second after the Sapporo meeting in July 2002.

Ulaanbaatar, the meeting venue, is the capital of Mongolia. The city became a member of the IAMNC in 1998. Mayor Enkhbold Miyegombo is presently an auditor of the organization.

# IAMNC—Working for Winter Cities

## What is the IAMNC?

Winter cities in the northern circle face city planning issues that are complicated by a need to adapt to harsh winter climatic conditions, including heavy snowfalls and cold temperatures.

Under the slogan "Winter is a Resource and Asset," the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC) provides winter cities with an opportunity for mayors and others to gather together to seek solutions to common winter city problems and to create more livable winter environments.

The IAMNC had its beginning in 1981 when the city of Sapporo initiated the Northern Intercity Conference. Through this organization an

original network was developed among northern cities in Asia, North America, and Europe.

In 1994, the Northern Intercity Conference was reformulated into the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC), which had as its goal to further strengthen the network of winter cities, to contribute to the development of winter cities, and to consider problems that went beyond the scope of any single city's needs. A feature of the newly formed IAMNC was that cities were welcome to join the organization by obtaining membership.

Katsura Nobuo, then mayor of Sapporo became the first president of the association, and its secretariat was established in the city of Sapporo.

## IAMNC Activities

### Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors

The most conspicuous activity of the IAMNC is the Northern Intercity conference of Mayors, or Mayors Conference, which is held biennially.

The first conference, conducted by the Northern Intercity Conference, was convened in 1982; nine cities from six countries participated in the event. In 1994, at the sixth Mayors Conference in Anchorage, USA, the name of the organization was changed to the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities.

Over the years, winter city mayors have met every other year to discuss issues such as city planning, winter

transportation, snow clearing and removal, waste recycling, tourism promotion and resources development. The results of the conferences have provided participating cities valuable suggestions, many of which have been implemented in member cities.

The IAMNC offers a unique opportunity for mayors to introduce their cities' challenges and to exchange views on issues as well as to foster friendship and trust among northern cities.

#### Previous Conferences

Conference No.	Host City	Participant Cities
1	Sapporo	9 cities/6 countries
2	Shenyang	10 cities/6 countries
3	Edmonton	17 cities/12 countries
4	Tromsø	20 cities/10 countries
5	Montréal	34 cities/11 countries
6	Anchorage	30 cities/10 countries

7	Winnipeg	33 cities/9 countries
8	Harbin	49 cities/10 countries
9	Luleå / Kiruna	26 cities/10 countries
10	Aomori	28 cities/13 countries
11	Anchorage	
12	Changchun	

#### Winter Cities Showcase

Since the third conference in Edmonton, Canada, the Winter Cities Showcase, which is composed of the Winter Expo for industries and businesses and the Winter Cities Forum for academics and research institutes, has been held in conjunction with the Mayors Conference. With these additional activities, the winter cities conference has become the largest winter convention in the northern regions, bringing together people, commodities, technology, and information.

#### Working-Level Officials Meeting

At the tenth Mayors Conference in

Aomori (February 2002), it was decided that a Working-Level Officials Meeting would be held annually starting in 2002. During this meeting the themes for the up-coming Mayors Conference and issues related to the management of the association are discussed.

#### Working-Level Officials Meetings

Year	Host	Dates	Cities/Countries
2002	Sapporo	July 3-4, 2002	10/7
2003	Ulaanbaatar	Sept. 13-16, 2003	9/6
2004	Changchun		

#### IAMNC Subcommittees

At the fourth conference in Tromsø, Norway, IAMNC subcommittees were established to conduct technical research and to exchange that information among administrators of municipal governments and technocrats.

In the past, subcommittees for Winter Urban Environmental Research; WinterNet; Waste Reduction and Recycling; Winter Recreation and Tourism; and Economic Expansion were established, and final reports on research findings were issued. Currently, research is being conducted by the Subcommittees for Countermeasures against Natural Disasters; Snow Management; Measures against Terrorism in Northern Cities; and Sustainable Winter Cities Planning.

# Events in IAMNC Cities

#### Prince George, Canada

- *Snow Daze*  
Winter Activities and Event
- Dates: February 10-16, 2004

#### Changchun, China

- *Changchun International Ice and Snow Festival*
- *Vasaloppet Changchun 2004*
- *China National Cross-Country Skiing Contest*
- Dates: Dec. 1, 2003 to Feb. 26, 2004

#### Harbin, China

- *The sixth Heilongjiang International Ski Festival*
- Dates: one month, from December 5, 2003

#### ■ *The fifth Harbin Ice and Snow Grand World*

The largest ice and snow theme park in the world, Harbin Ice and Snow Grand World receives over seven hundred thousand domestic and overseas visitors each year. This "Disney Land" of Ice and Snow holds seven world records

for its total area, the scale of landscape, the height of the ice sculpture, and other categories.

- Dates: two months beginning in late December 2003

#### ■ *The thirtieth Harbin International Ice Lantern Exhibition*

- Dates: two months beginning late December 2003

#### ■ *The eighteenth Harbin International Ice Sculpture Competition*

- Date: January 2004



■ *The sixteenth Harbin International Snow Sculpture Exhibition*

- Dates: more than two months beginning late December 2003

■ *The ninth Harbin International Snow Sculpture Competition*

- Date: January 2004

■ *The twentieth Harbin International Ice and Snow Festival*

The festival has been listed as one of the four largest winter festivals of the world. More than three hundred thousand domestic and overseas tourists are attracted to Harbin every year by world-renowned wonders of ice and snow sculptures as well as rich ski resources. Activities on culture and commerce are also put on the stage.

- Dates: more than forty days from January 5, 2004

**Jilin, China**

■ *The ninth Jilin International Rime, Ice and Snow Festival*

- Dates: from about January 5, 2004

■ *International Winter Dragon Boat Competition*

- Date: January 2004

■ *Winter Swimming Competition in Songhua River, Jilin City*

- Date: around January

**Shenyang, China**

■ *The seventh Shenyang Snow and Ice Tourism Festival*

Enjoy skating and various kinds of fun ice activities, as well as more than five hundred snow sculptures designed by professionals, students, and local residents.

- Dates: December 20, 2003–February 6, 2004

**Sapporo, Japan**

■ *The fifty-fifth Sapporo Snow Festival*

- Dates: February 5–11, 2004

■ *Sapporo International Ski Marathon*

- Date: February 8, 2004

■ *The seventy-fifth International Miyasama Ski Games*

- Dates: March 4–7, 2004

**Tromsø, Norway**

January 13 – 18, 2004

■ *Tromsø International Film Festival*

The world's northernmost film festival is held toward the end of the polar night with an opportunity to observe the fascinating northern lights.

Further information is available at <[www.tiff.no](http://www.tiff.no)>.

■ *Northern Lights Festival*

The Northern Lights Festival offers music of high artistic quality at the time when the sun reappears for the first time since November. For more information, please see <[www.nordlysfestivalen.no](http://www.nordlysfestivalen.no)>.

- Dates: January 21–25, 2004

■ *Northern Lights Festival Cruise*

Nordlyscruise (Northern Lights Festival Cruise): M/S Nordlys  
Leave Bergen to Tromsø

- Dates: January 17–21, 2004

**Kiruna, Sweden**

■ *Shakespeare Under the Aurora Sky*

The world's most performed plays in one of the world's least spoken languages on the world's only ice stage. Ice Globe Theatre presents Shakespeare's Macbeth in the Sami language. Just as in the original Globe Theatre, you enjoy the performance under an open sky. One difference, though, is that Shakespeare's audiences never enjoyed a flaming northern aurora sky. <[www.icchotel.com](http://www.icchotel.com)>.

Other events in Kiruna include the Arctic Light Film Festival <[www.arcticlight.org](http://www.arcticlight.org)>, and the Kiruna Snow Festival <[www.kirunasnowfestival.com](http://www.kirunasnowfestival.com)>. Both of these events take place in January.

From  
International Association of  
Mayors of Northern Cities  
Secretariat  
c/o City of Sapporo  
060-8611 JAPAN

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