

WWCAM member Tromsø, Norway.

What's the WWCAM?

World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

“Winter is a resource and an asset.”

The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM) is a network of winter cities around the world that provides members with opportunities to meet and learn from each other about winter technologies and experiences under the slogan “Winter is a Resource and an Asset.” The association, originally the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, was initiated by the city of Sapporo in 1981, and the following year the first Mayors Conference was held. In 2004 the organization became the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors.

Major WWCAM Activities

■ World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

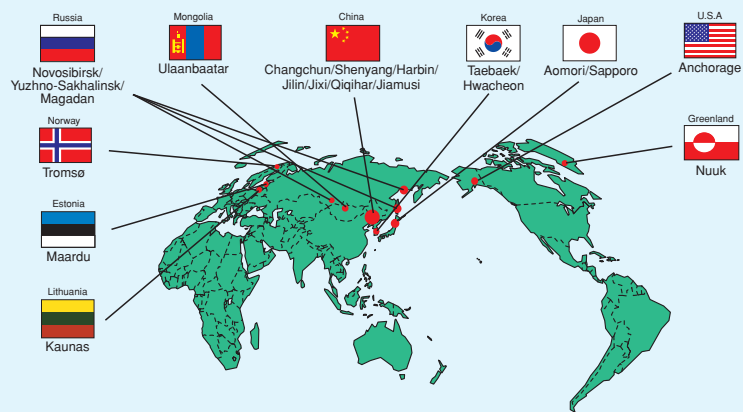
The biennial World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors (Mayors Conference), a major activity of the association, has been convened fourteen times. The conference provides a forum for mayors and city administrators to share expertise and experience on city planning, urban transportation in winter, snow removal, recycling, winter tourism, and other topics common to member cities. Participants gain valuable suggestions on comfortable city planning and techniques to overcome challenges caused by harsh climates. The site of the

What's a Winter City?

A winter city is defined by the WWCAM as one that faces harsh winter climatic conditions, including heavy snowfalls and cold temperatures. A winter city also has an annual snow accumulation of more than 20cm (8in.) and an average temperature of 0°C (32°F) or below during the city's coldest month.

twenty cities from ten countries as of April 2010

WWCAM Members



Mayors Conference rotates among member cities willing to host the event.

■ Winter Expo & Winter Cities Forum

The host city of a Mayors Conference may organize a Winter Expo and a Winter Cities Forum in conjunction with the conference. The host city, along with businesses and organizations of member cities, realizes an exhibition of a range of winter-related products at the Winter Expo.



Mayor Ueda makes a presentation on Sapporo's environmental issues at the Maardu Mayors Conference in January 2010.

The Winter Cities Forum provides experts and academic researchers, as well as local citizens, with an opportunity to make presentations on winter-related issues, such as lifestyle and city planning. Since the third conference in 1988, the Winter Cities Forum has been held in conjunction with each of the Mayors Conferences.

The addition of the Winter Expo and the Winter Cities Forum to the World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors has greatly increased the scale and significance of the conference.



Mayors Conference (above) and Winter Expo in Changchun, China, 2006.

■ WWCAM Subcommittees

The WWCAM subcommittees conduct research and case studies and exchange information on winter technology. The subcommittees for “Waste Reduction and Recycling,” “Winter Recreation and Tourism,” “Sustainable Winter Cities Planning,” and “Winter City Environmental Issues” are examples of WWCAM subcommittees that have compiled research reports.



WWCAM subcommittee reports.

At present, the Subcommittees on “City Operation for Mitigation of Climate Change (secretariat: Anchorage)” and “Environmental Protection” (secretariat: Changchun, China), with “global scale environmental issues” as their main themes, gather information on environmental education and vehicle-related issues; on measures for reducing air and water contamination; and on advanced energy-saving technology. Please visit the web site of the WWCAM for more information.

■ Working-Level Officials Meeting

Working-Level Officials Meetings allow senior administrators of WWCAM member cities to meet and discuss the themes of upcoming Mayors Conferences, as well as important matters related to the management of future conferences.

Membership in the WWCAM

To join the WWCAM, a mayor may apply to the president for membership. Submit applications to the Secretariat, WWCAM.

■ Benefits of Membership

Members may—

- attend, speak at, and vote at the General Assembly and the Mayors Conference;
- bid to host the Mayors Conference;
- utilize the WWCAM network to conduct information and personnel exchanges with other WWCAM members.



Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia.

Now that you're interested...

The WWCAM invites you to join us to make winter cities more livable. Please contact us for more details on membership and registration. The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors Secretariat (Tel: 81-11-211-2032; Fax: 81-11-218-5168; E-mail: wwcam@city.sapporo.jp).

The WWCAM web site contains the latest information on the conference and details of conference outcomes. Your visit to the WWCAM web site is welcomed.

www.city.sapporo.jp/somu/kokusai/wwcam/