

About the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM)

The WWCAM is a network that brings together winter cities of the world to meet and learn from each other about winter technologies and experiences under the slogan "Winter is a Resource and an Asset." Formerly known as the Northern Intercity Conference, the association was initiated by the City of Sapporo in 1981 and the following year the first Mayors Conference was held. In 2004, aiming for further development, the name was changed to the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors. Main activities of the Association include a Mayors Conference held biannually, a Working Level Officials Meeting where political strategists gather together to discuss the themes and other administrative matters for upcoming Mayors Conferences as well as the operation of the association as a whole, and subcommittees where working-level officials and engineers from winter cities research and investigate advanced cases in winter planning. While coming together under one roof to discuss useful information and technologies regarding comfortable winter city planning, mayors of winter cities work together as members of the international community to solve issues that need global cooperation to fix, such as global environmental issues. Such exchanges with global cities which face similar cold, snowy environments leads to building both tangible and intangible assets for each city.

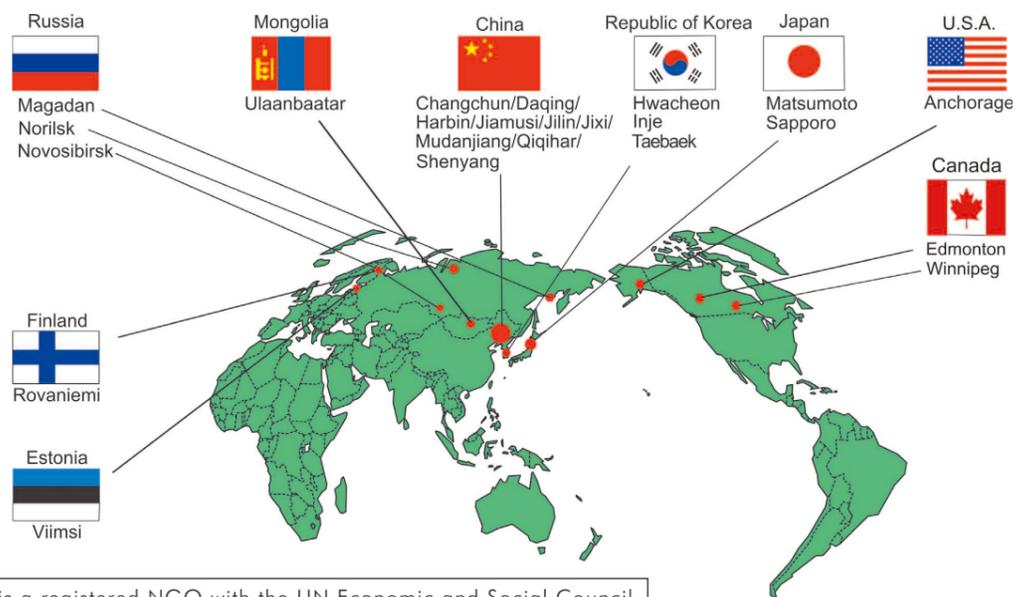
What is a winter city?

A city that faces challenges related to development due to harsh winter climate conditions with heavy snowfall and cold temperatures.

Measure of snow accumulation: at least 20cm (8in) per year.

Measure of temperature: at least one month per year with an approximate average temp. below 0°C (32°F).

Member Cities 23 cities from 9 countries (As of April, 2019)



The WWCAM is a registered NGO with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (Roster status), and with the Department of Global Communications (DGC).

Become a Member

Application for Membership: Any mayor wishing to become a member of the Association will apply to the President for membership. The decision will be made after consulting with the Board of Directors.

Membership Fee: Member cities must pay an annual membership fee which is calculated in accordance with their per-capita GDP and their population. The fee for the first year will be half the amount of the calculated annual membership fee.

Advantages of Membership: The members will be qualified to attend the General Assembly and Mayors Conference, speak at meetings, and vote. They will receive all publications of the Association, including newsletters. They are also qualified to apply for hosting the Winter Cities Showcase during the Mayors conference. In addition, they are eligible to utilize the network system established among members.

Apply to: World Winter Cities Association Secretariat

Detailed information on the latest conference and results so far is published on the World Winter Cities Association website. Feel free to check out the link: <https://wwcam.org/>

The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors is recruiting member cities to come together to discuss comfortable winter city planning. For detailed requirements for membership, please contact the WWCAM Secretariat.



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2018 Shenyang Mayors Conference Report



The 18th WWCAM Mayors Conference was held in Shenyang, China over three days from September 12 to 14, 2018. This conference—which was held in Shenyang for the second time since the city hosted the Mayors Conference thirty three years ago in 1985—saw the participation of WWCAM member cities and observers from around the world, as well as friendship cities with ties to Shenyang. Under the major theme of "winter cities: making life better," participants shared case studies and presented their mid-term reports on their Environmental Action Goals.

During the conference, the Shenyang Declaration, which was proposed by the City of Shenyang and the WWCAM Secretariat, was adopted with the approval of all member cities and representatives all participating cities, including observers, signed the declaration. During the signing, representatives signed the backdrop paneling at the venue and stood together for a commemorative photo in front of the paneling after all parties had signed. The draft resolution was unanimously adopted at the General Assembly and the Vice Mayor of Shenyang gave the closing remarks, adjourning the two-day-long conference.

- Period: Wednesday, Sept. 12 – Thursday, Sept. 13, 2019
- Venue: New World Expo, Shangri-La Hotel
- Main events:
 - Opening ceremony, keynote speeches, general assembly, presentation of case studies by member cities, mid-term report on the revitalization goals, Arctic Design Subcommittee, general meeting, closing ceremony

Participating cities (member cities) 17 cities in 7 countries

Canada	Edmonton
China	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Mudanjiang, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Finland	Rovaniemi
Japan	Matsumoto, Sapporo
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar
South Korea	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia	Norilsk

Shenyang Declaration

We, representatives from 44 cities and 20 countries, gather in Shenyang at the invitation of Shenyang Municipal People's Government, to attend the 18th WWCAM Mayors Conference.

Conforming to the trend of peaceful development and the strong momentum of regional cooperation, the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, established in 1981, has evolved into a remarkable platform on which we share inspirations in city development, seek common ground and enhance mutual understanding and trust. The WWCAM now works as the efficient channel and mechanism to promote regional cooperation and common development. Built on the foundation of previous conferences, this conference warmly embraced not only member cities, but also winter cities facing the same challenges from across the world, thus injecting new vitality to this world cities network.

"Making Life Better," clearly features not only the good desire and earnest pursuit of a better life for people around the world, but also the inescapable historical responsibility of city management. After in-depth discussion in topics including precise planning, detailed development and lean management, smart city construction, green development, and joint efforts for happy winter cities, we achieve positive outcomes in strengthening friendship, furthering exchange and cooperation, enhancing mutual understanding and trust, and reaching common ground.

As the symbol of modern civilization, cities have made great contributions to the prosperity and development of the world. With the fast development of economic globalization, the internationalization of urban functions requires cities to be more interdependent. Countries of different cultural backgrounds and different levels of development need to enhance mutual understanding and mutual respect, and promote common development. We unanimously agree to promote friendly exchange and in-depth cooperation among cities, enhance mutual trust, and realize common development in the concept of opening up, inclusiveness, cooperation and win-win outcomes.

In the face of current challenges, we should break a new path of growth and generate new growth momentum. We will open a new path and expand new boundaries for economic development of world cities with new methods of innovation, structural reform, new industrial revolution and digital economy.

We should forge ahead in the spirit of partnership which is the most valuable asset in international exchanges. Although we differ in national conditions, city conditions, and stages of development, and face different challenges, we all share the same wish to promote economic growth and the same vision for realizing common development. As long as we stick to the spirit of partnership, we will be able to overcome all difficulties and chart a new course for future growth.

What's past is prologue. We hereby jointly declare that we will join hands and strive forward together to write a new chapter of win-win cooperation. Let us stand at a higher starting point and embrace a new era of harmony with greater tolerance and openness. Let us make our cities more beautiful and create a happier life for our people!

Keynote Speech

Following the opening ceremony, seven cities gave their keynote speeches and the main theme and sub-themes of the conference were presented. Jiang Youwei, Mayor of Shenyang, spoke on initiatives concerning comprehensive urban development including urban-rural imbalances, structural adjustments in industry world which is partial to heavy industry, and a progressively-ageing population and welfare policies. Mikami, Director General for the Mayor's Office for the City of Sapporo and Secretary-General for the WWCAM, introduced the Sapporo Sosei Square project as a case study for discussing a switch to low-carbon development and sustainable urban planning in times of disaster, efforts which are laid out in the city's Urban Energy Master Plan.

Representatives of observer cities also gave presentations. The mayor of Rabat, Morocco, presented on efforts to shape Rabat into an environmentally friendly, sustainable city; the Mayor of Minsk, Belarus, presented an example of urban development centering on winter sports; the Vice Mayor of Seoul, South Korea discussed transportation policies for urban development; Suleyman Mikayilov, the Governor of Garadagh, Azerbaijan discussed the potential for Garadagh to blossom into a prominent industrial area as it possesses abundant tourism resources and natural resources; and the Mayor of Belfast, England, discussed their city planning vision for 2035.

Main theme:
 Winter Cities, Making Life Better!

- Sub-themes:**
1. Winter Cities: Precise Planning, Delicate Development and Lean Management
 2. New-Type Smart City Construction for Winter Cities
 3. Green Development of Winter Cities
 4. Joint Efforts for Happy Winter Cities



The Mayor of Shenyang, giving a greeting at the opening ceremony



Presentation of Case Studies

Following the keynote speeches in the morning, the conference switched venues and representatives from participating cities presented case studies relating to the conference theme.

Rovaniemi, Finland, one of the WWCAM member cities, spoke about green energy initiatives using wood, peat, and hydropower as well as trends in amounts of electricity consumed. Harbin, China presented on various events which brighten up the winter season and where both domestic and international cultures coexist. Edmonton, Canada discussed changes in behavioral trends of its residents due to the effects of the city's Winter City Strategy, which was entering its 5th year of implementation at the time, and points for further improvement. Hwacheon, South Korea discussed their Sancheoneo Ice Festival, which attracted 27,000 visitors from all over the world. Matsumoto, Japan shared their efforts which are oriented around Matsumoto Castel, a national treasure, and aim to foster a healthy city in which its citizens have longer healthy life expectancy. Norilsk, Russia introduced the contribution of Norilsk Nickel Corporation, which supports the local economy, and initiatives to enhance public facilities and services.

Of the observer cities, Clermont-Ferrand, France, which is home to the Michelin headquarters, discussed smart city policies. Vancouver, Canada presented their action plan for becoming the greenest city. Salt Lake City, shared the roles of their newly established economic development department and the city's efforts to achieve 100% renewable energy for community electricity supply and an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Norilsk, Russia (Joined in August, 2018)

Norilsk is a world's northernmost city with the resident population around 180,000 people. It is situated at the 69° parallel within the Arctic Polar circle which means that it has polar days, with the sun not setting from May 20 to July 24, and polar nights, when the sun doesn't show up from November 30 to January 13. And sometimes – even Aurora Polaris.

As the climate in the region being harsh Norilsk is one of the coldest cities in the world (up to -56°C) with 280 days of lasting frost period and 130+ days of snowstorms. During wintertime falls over 2,000,000 metric tons of snow. Moreover Norilsk is listed in the world's top-5 settlements with the strongest wind – to counter this the city building plan was developed in a compact loop manner. As for the buildings themselves most of them were constructed using the unique pile foundation technology which reduces the costs and effort in the permafrost.

Norilsk was founded 66 years ago and today it is a modern city with highly-developed infrastructure that meets the requirements for comfortable living in the Far North, including 41 kindergartens and 36 schools, as well as one higher education institution, Norilsk State Industrial Institute, with over 3,000 students. These specialists are in great demand for the "Norilsk Nickel MMC" which is a base of one of the largest Russian industrial centers.

Norilsk is a gateway to the "lost world" of the Putorana Plateau, UNESCO World Natural Heritage site with an area of 250,000 square km and the highest waterfall density in Russia. Being reachable only via airplane (and through the Yenisei river for the summertime period), it still manages to save a lot of unique species that are on the verge of extinction in the rest of the world, such as bighorns, white-tailed eagles and muskoxen.



Daqing, China (Joined in April, 2019)

Daqing is situated in the western part of Heilongjiang Province in the northeast of China. Having five districts and four agriculture counties under its jurisdiction, Daqing covers a total area of 21,000 square kilometers. The area of the city districts is 5,105 square kilometers.

The population in the Daqing area is 2.72 million while the residents living in the city districts are 1.37 million. Daqing has a new & high-tech industrial development zone and a zone of economy and technology development – both are of the national level zones. In Daqing, there are four large state-owned corporations, which are Daqing Oil Field Corporation, Daqing Petrochemical Corporation, Daqing Refinery Company and Daqing Zhonglan Petrochemical Co.

1959 saw the discovery of Daqing Oil Field. Daqing Municipality was established in 1979. Over the past 60 years since the development of Daqing Oil Field, the oil production has been maintained of 50 million metric tons for 27 years running and 40 million metric tons for 12 years with accumulative output of crude oil of 2.37 billion metric tons. In Daqing, there are 76 petrochemical companies (large and medium-sized) with primary-refining capacity of 18.2 million metric tons including products with 8 categories and 200 kinds and over 1,000 brands of petrochemical products.

Daqing is striving to expand the capability of oil and gas production, deepen the downstream processing of oil and gas, put priority on the development of auto manufacturing, new materials, electronic information and modern service.

Daqing has an airport with 15 air routes connecting Daqing with 21 domestic cities. In 2018 Daqing had air passengers exceeding 830,000, a rise of 33.7 per cent over the previous year. Daqing has convenient transportation system including rail train transport (ordinary speed), express train between cities, express highways and inner city expressways. Daqing is a city with uniqueness and charm. In the city there are over a hundred lakes dotted besides the living quarters which are connected by grasslands and woods. Daqing has been rated as China National Environment Protection City, National Hygiene City and Civilization City. In China not many cities have won the three titles simultaneously.

Among China's 100 domestic wealthy and strong cities, Daqing was ranked 65th. Daqing has high quality of education where there are 13 major demonstration high schools of provincial-level. The enrollment rate for senior high school has been 95 per cent. Daqing has quality public facilities including theatres, museums and libraries, an Olympic Stadium and so on. These places are popular venues for people to visit with activities and events like the International Snooker Championship Game, WCBA National Women Basketball Games and sports games. Performances are given by international and domestic artists welcomed by local people. The acclamation and influence level of Daqing has been stably improved in the past years.



Introduction of New Member Cities

Winnipeg, Canada (joined in January, 2017)

In Canada, Winnipeg is famous for its winters, which is something locals have been embracing for years. When the temperature drops, Winnipeg residents head outdoors and experience all the season has to offer.

Part of the winter culture in Winnipeg includes lively gatherings. The city's Festival du Voyageur is Western Canada's largest winter festival, celebrating our local Francophone community with live music, an ice bar, and a snow sculpture symposium with sculptors from around the world.

Winnipeg also hosts one of the world's longest skating trails on the Red and Assiniboine rivers, which also features our globally-recognized warming hut design competition. Right beside the skating trail is RAW:almond, the world's only pop-up restaurant situated on a frozen river.

Northern Manitoba is famous for its majestic polar bears – see them up close at Assiniboine Park Zoo's 'Journey to Churchill' exhibit, along with other Arctic species from snowy owls to caribou and muskoxen.

Active explorers adore picturesque snow-capped forests and trails at FortWhyte Alive, where guided snowshoe hikes, Nordic walking, tobogganing, nature scavenger hunts and yoga on a frozen lake are just some of the fun outdoor activities offered.

For celebrating winter in comfort, Thermëa by Nordik Spa Nature is a Scandinavian-style spa that truly embraces the season with saunas, hot and cold pools that are especially refreshing in January.

Explore the many Winnipeg winter opportunities at tourismwinnipeg.com/plan/winnipeg-winter.



Mudanjiang, China (Joined in July, 2018)



Mudanjiang is located in the center of Northeast Asia, it is also the central city in the southeast of Heilongjiang province with a total population of 2.75 million and an area of 38,800 km². The economic aggregate ranks third in Heilongjiang Province. The main features of Mudanjiang can be summarized as favorable location, high quality ecosystem, abundant resources, complete industry and rich culture.

Mudanjiang embraces favorable location and convenient transportation. Mudanjiang has frontiers with Primorsky Krai sharing a border of 211 km with Russia, with a distance of 153 km to Vladivostok Port, a linear distance of 50 km to the Pacific. It has 4 first-class national railway and highway ports.

Mudanjiang is among the first members of World Tourism City Federation, China Excellent Tourism Cities. There are 109 basic tourism resources in 8 categories, and more than 450 scenic spots in Mudanjiang. Jingpo Lake is the world's largest volcanic barrier lake; the snow-covered period of "China Snow Village" is up to seven months every year.

Mudanjiang, with its abundant resources and production factors, is a fast growing industrial city. Located at 45 degrees north latitude, it is in the world golden belts of corn, milk sources and black soil and it has

been named the capital of green and organic food in China. Our green products are exported to Russian, Korea, Japan, and over 40 countries and regions in Europe and America.

Warmly welcome to Mudanjiang, a beautiful, rich, open and civilized city.



Mid-term Report on Environmental Action Goals

Ten member cities (Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, and Shenyang, China; Matsumoto and Sapporo, Japan; and Hwacheon, Inje, and Taebaek, South Korea) presented their mid-term reports on the status of each city's efforts to carry out their Environmental Action Goals during the Working-Level Officials Meeting in January, 2018. In addition, several other cities also gave reports on their initiatives. Edmonton, Canada discussed conversion to renewable energy and measures taken to combat air pollution based on an environmental strategy adopted by the city in 2015, Jilin, China discussed efforts being undertaken to reduce particulate matter (PM2.5) and improve air quality as set out in a three-year plan in effect in both the city and province of Jilin, Qiqihar, China discussed energy-saving initiatives and conversion to renewable sources of energy including solar power, wind power, and biomass power generation, and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, discussed the promotion of renewable, clean energy using subsidies. All cities will present their final reports at the Mayors Conference in Rovaniemi, Finland in 2020.



Arctic Design Subcommittee

The Arctic Design Subcommittee was established in 2015 with Rovaniemi, Finland as the subcommittee secretariat. It was announced that all activities of the subcommittee were temporarily paused until the successor of Tarija Outila—who had been in charge of the subcommittee for many years and retired from her position at the city hall and changed employment to the University of Oulu in order to further deepen her research for the subcommittee—was appointed.

As the course of further development, the subcommittee announced it will include not just local municipalities but also universities, institutions of higher education, research facilities and the private sector in continuing to carry out activities.

Supplementary Events



Exchange and Cooperation Meeting for World Winter Cities Business Circles, Project Release, and Promotional Showcase

As a supplementary event to the WWCAM Mayors Conference, an exchange and cooperation meeting for business circles in winter cities around the world was held on September 12 at the Shangri-La Hotel. Over 50 representatives from organizations from countries and regions in Africa, South America, Asia, and Oceania attended and gave presentations about their respective projects, and individual business matching meetings were held. On September 13, an event entitled the Japan City and Tourism Promotional Showcase was held where the Japanese cities of Hakodate, Kushiro, Matsumoto, and Sapporo promoted the attractions and allures of their cities to participants, local media, and tourism agencies.

Shenyang International Friendship Gala Evening

Over 1000 guests, including both audience members and performers, gathered together in the Shengjing Grand Theater, and opera house in Shenyang, for this large-scale Shenyang International Friendship Gala Evening. In addition to displays of traditional Chinese music and acrobatics and performances from youth musicians of songs and music from various countries, foreign residents in Shenyang presented their views on the appeals of Shenyang from a foreigner's point of view.



Site Visits/Walking Tours

Participants toured the Shenyang Olympic Sports Center Stadium, which had been used as an official satellite venue to host soccer matches during the 2008 Beijing Olympics and is still used for sports matches and as a concert venue to this day. They also took a tour around the Wuli River Park—which lies on the north shore of the Hun River and is known as the "Mother River" by the locals—where they saw groups of local residents doing exercises for maintaining health such as various styles of the martial art of Tai Chi.

2018 Working Level Officials Meeting (WLOM) Report

Dates: Thurs. Jan. 25 – Fri. Jan 26, 2018

Venue: Sapporo Park Hotel

Participants: 63 people from 15 cities in 5 countries

(1) Member cities: 55 people from 11 cities in 5 countries

(2) Observers: 8 people from 4 cities

Participating Cities (Members) 11 cities in 5 countries

China	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Shenyang
Finland	Rovaniemi
Japan	Matsumoto, Sapporo
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar
South Korea	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek

Observer Cities (4 cities)

Japan	Yokote, Fukuoka, Chitose, Niseko,
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Conference Main Content

(1) Report on environmental action goals set by each member city

Upon reaching a resolution at the Hwacheon Mayors Conference in January of 2014, each city set action goals relating to environmental conservation. Reports on the results of their efforts were presented at the Sapporo Mayors Conference in 2016, where it was decided that they would continue working on their efforts towards environmental conservation.

Information presented by member cities on numerical targets with regards to 1.) the reduction of energy use and conversion to renewable sources, and 2.) efforts being undertaken for environmental conservation including tackling air pollution were presented at the most recent WLOM.

Summary is as follows:



Changchun	Restrict total consumption of coal, regulate exhaust gas, enforce effective use of straw
Harbin	Significantly improve air quality within the city, reduce the concentration of PM2.5 particle pollution to less than 53 micrograms per stère (cubic meter), and reduce the number of days affected by heavy pollution by half. Improve the quality of drinking water and the Songhua river water. Gradually phased reduction of major pollutants in water and gas resources.
Jiamusi	Reduce emissions of major pollutants such as chemical oxygen demand (COD), improve the water quality of rivers and drinking water, improve and maintain air quality, and prioritize the perseveration of crop and vegetable fields.
Jixi	Prevention and management of air and water pollution, management of the soil environment, establish restrictions in the form of an "ecological red line," reinforce restrictions designed to help the environment, make improvements in ecological and environmental protection.
Shenyang	Reduce the percentage of coal accounting for energy consumption to less than 70%, raise the total primary energy consumption rate of non-fossil fuels to 8%, and reduce the concentration of PM2.5 pollutants to under 58 micrograms per stère (cubic meter) by 2020.
Rovaniemi	Recycle at least 55% of municipal waste by reusing at least 70% of construction and demolition waste as materials and decreasing the amount of waste generated by the city to the level it was at in 2000 by the year 2020.
Matsumoto	Introduce 45MW of photovoltaic power generation by the 2020 fiscal year, reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1,600 t-CO2 by curbing energy use through improving insulation in existing houses.
Sapporo	Reduce greenhouse gasses by 25% of the 1990 levels by 2030, encourage a growth in super-insulated and airtight housing, introduce 310,000 next-generation vehicles, restrict the electricity demand in industrial and business fields to 52.7 billion kWh, increase the production of electricity by renewable resources to 1.11 billion kWh.
Hwacheon	Approve 154 solar power generation facilities and get 28 up and running by 2020
Inje	Increase output of new renewable energy to 66GWH and increase the number of households using efficient energy to 3,000 by 2020.
Taebak	Invest in a new project for sustainable energy by 2020, promote the continuous expansion of environmentally-friendly renewable resources (wind power, solar energy, fuel cells, etc.)

(2) Mid-term Report on the Revitalization Projects

The WWCAM has defined revitalization projects as "efforts undertaken to increase the number of member cities" of the Association. The City of Sapporo was scheduled to play the role of secretariat for the revitalization projects from 2017 to 2019. In 2017, representing the WWCAM, the secretariat attended a UN-DPI-hosted event along with staff from Edmonton, Canada—another WWCAM member city— where they built networks with UN-associated institutions, government representatives from various countries, and personnel from UN-registered NGOs while getting the WWCAM name out there. The secretariat has since made, and will continue to make, efforts to actively search out opportunities for public relations related activities, including participating once again in similar UN-hosted general assemblies and exhibitions as well as other international conferences.

(3) Arctic Design Subcommittee

The City of Rovaniemi, the Arctic Design Subcommittee Secretariat, presented the results of a questionnaire they compiled in the winter of 2017. Tarja Outila presented their findings including challenges/problems that affect urban design and challenges/problems relating to winter conditions that restrict innovation, after which a round table discussion was held member cities which participated in the subcommittee, including Sapporo, Changchun, and Edmonton.



Supplementary Events

On January 26, 2018, an event geared towards local residents entitled "Quality of Life as seen through Winter Cities Lifestyles" was held at a local restaurant in downtown Sapporo. The event was broken down into three parts where junior high school students from Sapporo and representatives of member cities participating in the WLOM talked about each respective city's winter lifestyles, introduced local cuisine which is representative of their region, and participated in a talk session introducing each city in general. With a local professor who specialized in university lifestyle-related matters as the panel discussion facilitator, all participating city personnel discussed ways of living with a high quality of life, workstyles, and women at work, presented the dishes being served during the event from each region, and enjoyed free talk with local residents and conference participants while sampling said dishes. A poster session was also set up during this time.



Upcoming Mayors Conference

The 19th WWCAM Mayors Conference will be held in Rovaniemi, Finland in 2020. After joining the Association in 2014, Rovaniemi has also been the secretariat of the Arctic Design Subcommittee since 2015. This will be the first time that a city which is acting as secretariat for a subcommittee will also concurrently play host to a Mayors Conference.

Also, an amendment was made to the WWCAM Charter at the Shenyang Mayors Conference allowing member cities other than the city in which the WWCAM Secretariat is located (Sapporo) to host the Working-Level Officials Meeting (WLOM), which in principal is held the year prior to a Mayors Conference. As such, it has been decided that our newest member city of Norilsk, Russia will host the upcoming WLOM in November, 2019.

The WWCAM has a new website!

As part of an effort to gather more members, the WWCAM has revamped their website. Check it out at the link below.

WWCAM Official Homepage: <https://wwcam.org/>

