

WWCAM

World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

Pamphlet



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Charter



Towards Creating Livable Winter Cities

Although winter poses many challenges to the citizens of winter cities, it also brings many blessings to our cities. For instance, snow, which is an abundant source of water and a winter tourism resource, is therefore a precious asset for the citizens of winter cities. In 1982, the first Northern Intercity Conference was convened in Sapporo under the philosophy “Winter is a Resource and an Asset”. The conference was introduced to offer an opportunity for cities in northern regions around the world to gather and discuss common issues that often face cities with harsh winter climate. In 2004, our original network of northern regions expanded into a network of international winter cities, aiming to gain broader perspectives and to work together not only with cities in northern regions, but also with other winter-climate cities around the world. Along with this expansion of the network, the association changed its name from the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC) to the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM). Since then, the World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors has continuously been held.

The greatest benefit of the Mayors Conference is that mayors—top leaders in city management—can gather face-to-face, candidly discuss, and share knowledge on challenges facing winter cities. Many winter cities have incorporated the outcomes of the past conferences into their city planning. In recent years, our association has worked to play a role in the international community in addressing environmental issues and other challenges that require global cooperation, while continuing to share information and technologies beneficial in creating livable winter cities. Since 2016, the theme of “Unique Urban Development Inspired by Winter Cities and shared with the world” has set a new direction for the Mayors Conferences.

I hope that this brochure will help you understand the philosophy and activities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, and I cordially invite you to become a member of our network to work together towards our goal of creating livable winter cities.

秋元克広

Mayor AKIMOTO Katsuhiro
President of WWCAM
Mayor of Sapporo

Historical Background of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

Winter cities face the common issue of having to adapt city planning to harsh winter climate conditions, such as heavy snowfall and cold temperatures. Under the slogan “Winter is a Resource and Asset,” the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM) provides winter cities in the world with similar climate conditions an opportunity to gather together and discuss common issues in order to create livable winter cities. The organization all started when the city of Sapporo initiated the Northern Intercity Conference in 1981.

In 1982, the first Northern Intercity Conference was convened in Sapporo with attendance of 9 cities from 6 countries. This conference continued to be held and developed its unique network among northern cities in Asia, North America, and Europe.

Beginning at the third conference in Edmonton in 1988, the Winter Expo, which is for industries and businesses, and the Winter Cities Forum, for academics and research institutes, have been held in conjunction with the Northern Intercity Conference. Thus, the conference had grown to be a large-scale winter convention in the northern region of the world, bringing together people, commodities, technology, and information.

At the 6th Conference in Anchorage 1994, the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC) was established and launched as a new member-based organization, aiming to further strengthen this network and to develop an entire northern circle where winter cities can collaborate. In accordance with this establishment, the name of the conference was changed to the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors.

In past conferences, mayors discussed various issues such as city planning, winter transportation, snow clearing and removal, waste recycling, tourism promotion and resources development. They have learned from each other’s experiences and wisdom, taking suggestions for city development and measures for overcoming severe climate conditions.

At the 11th Conference in Anchorage 2004, it was also resolved that the organization would expand its target membership area. Accordingly, the association changed its name to the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM). Since then, the World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors (the Mayors Conference) has continuously been held.

The Mayor of Sapporo has served as the President of the association since the establishment of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities, and its Secretariat has been located at the International Relations Department of the City of Sapporo.

What is a "Winter City"?

"Winter City" indicates 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 cold temperature:**

At least one month per year with an approximate average temperature below 0°C (32°F).

These are just standards. Even if a city does not meet these standards, it may join the association as long as it is a winter city faced with winter-related challenges in city planning.

Significance of the WWCAM

Member of the International Community

As one can see from the present global environmental issues, recent years have seen more challenges that countries and regions around the world must work together to solve. In order to tackle these issues, not only nations and international organizations, but also local governments must cooperate with each other as members of the international community.

Accordingly, those northern cities aiming to fulfill their roles and responsibilities are expected to mutually cooperate to solve various issues as members of the international community. They should assist and cooperate with other northern cities faced with similar problems by sharing knowledge of the latest technology for winter city planning. Furthermore, each city should incorporate the knowledge and experience it has learned from other cities into their city development.

Creation of Livable Winter Cities

The results of overseas exchanges are reflected in various forms of city planning. Although all these results are not immediately visible, they exert a great influence on the lives of citizens.

In the WWCAM, winter cities will continue to interact with each other over time, building tangible and intangible assets that are valuable to city planning in each of the cities.

Face-to-Face Communication

While the internet has become a common means of communication in modern society, it remains important for mayors to gather together and discuss issues face-to-face. Such communication made it possible for participating cities to share knowledge and technology beneficial to create livable winter cities.

Member Cities

Member cities	22 cities from 9 countries	As of May 2025
Canada (2)	Edmonton, Winnipeg	
China (9)	Changchun, Daqing, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Mudanjiang, Qiqihar, Shenyang	
Estonia (1)	Viimsi	
Finland (1)	Rovaniemi	
Japan (1)	Sapporo	
Mongolia (1)	Ulaanbaatar	
Republic of Korea (3)	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek	
Russia (3)	Magadan, Norilsk, Novosibirsk	
U.S.A. (1)	Anchorage	

Activities

World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

The World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors is held every two years.

During the conference, mayors introduce their city's efforts and initiatives related to city-planning. Participants actively discuss and share the information and the technology they utilize to create a livable winter city.

In principle, mayors of the WWCAM member cities attend the conference; however, non-member cities may also participate in the conference as observers.

The host city of the conference is selected by vote out of all of the candidate cities at the WWCAM General Assembly.



18th World Winter City Conference for Mayors
Shenyang, China, September 2018

Conference Number	Host City	Dates	Participating Cities
1	Sapporo	Feb. 7-10, 1982	9 cities from 6 countries
2	Shenyang	Sep. 19-22, 1985	10 cities from 6 countries
3	Edmonton	Feb. 13-15, 1988	17 cities from 12 countries
4	Tromsø	Mar. 2-4, 1990	20 cities from 10 countries

5	Montréal	Jan. 17-21, 1992	34 cities from 11 countries
6	Anchorage	Mar. 5-10, 1994	30 cities from 10 countries
7	Winnipeg	Feb. 9-12, 1996	33 cities from 9 countries
8	Harbin	Jan. 15-18, 1998	49 cities from 10 countries
9	Luleå & Kiruna	Feb. 12-16, 2000	26 cities from 10 countries
10	Aomori	Feb. 7-10, 2002	28 cities from 13 countries
11	Anchorage	Feb. 18-22, 2004	27 cities from 11 countries
12	Changchun	Jan. 15-18, 2006	29 cities from 13 countries
13	Nuuk	Jan. 18-20, 2008	22 cities from 8 countries
14	Maardu	Jan. 20-22, 2010	18 cities from 11 countries
15	Ulaanbaatar	Jan. 13-15, 2012	13 cities from 7 countries
16	Hwacheon	Jan. 16-18, 2014	12 cities from 4 countries
17	Sapporo	Jul. 27-30, 2016	32 cities from 8 countries
18	Shenyang	Sep. 12-14, 2018	46 cities from 21 countries
19	Rovaniemi	Nov. 5, 15-16, 2021	21 cities from 7 countries
20	Sapporo	Dec. 17-21, 2024	21 cities, etc. from 8 countries

● **Issues Discussed at Respective Conferences:**

◇ **First Conference, Sapporo**

- Future Direction in City Planning in the Northern Regions
- Transportation Problems
- Improving Living Environments
- Promotion of Arts, Culture, Sports, and Recreation

◇ **Second Conference, Shenyang**

- Planning and Construction of the Northern City
- Utilization and Exploitation of Energy and Economic Development in Northern Cities
- Afforestation and Cultural Activities in Northern Cities
- Exploitation and Utilization of Water Resources, Preservation and Excavation of Cultural Relics in Northern Cities

◇ **Third Conference, Edmonton**

Main Theme: “Business of Winter”

- Economic Development in Winter Cities - Potentials of Winter Cities
- Urban Environment in Winter Cities

◇ **Fourth Conference, Tromsø**

Main Theme: “Warm Winter Cities-Quality of Life and Economic Development”

- Urban Transportation in Winter
- Comprehensive City Planning
- Development of Winter Technology
- Challenges of Small Cities
- Art and Culture of Winter Cities

◇ **Fifth Conference, Montréal**

Main Theme: “Living in Harmony with Winter”

- Environment
- Urban planning
- Health and physical strength

◇ **Sixth Conference, Anchorage**

Main Theme: “North to the Future”

- Communications: “Developments in Communications Technology”
- Transportation: “International Air Commerce”
- Health: “Changes in the Global Climate”
- Business: “Marketing Winter Destinations and Winter Tourism”

◇ **Seventh Conference, Winnipeg**

Main Theme: “Global Living – Living, Working and Playing in the Winter City”

- Economic Development: “Warming the North for Business Development”
- Accessibility: “Accessibility in Winter Cities”
- Leisure and Recreation: “How are the Long-term Needs of Winter-city Citizens Being Met?”

◇ **Eighth Conference, Harbin**

Main Theme: “Let Us Unite to Create a Winter World Kaleidoscope!”

- What Winter Means to Senior Citizens and Children
- Develop and Exploit Winter Tourism Resources
- Promoting the Culture of Ice and Snow

◇ **Ninth Conference, Luleå/Kiruna**

Main Theme: “Sustainable Development in Winter Cities”

- Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters, Support Networks among IAMNC Members During Natural Disasters
- Snow Removal and Civil Cooperation

◇ **Tenth Conference, Aomori**

Main Theme: “Sustainable Winter Cities 21”

- Revitalization of Central Urban Area
- Urban System with the Less Negative Impacts on Environment

◇ **Eleventh Conference, Anchorage**

Main Theme: “Challenging Winter Frontiers”

- Winter City Designs: Satellite Town Centers
- The Role of the Sports Community in the Development of Municipal Services and Venues

◇ **Twelfth Conference, Changchun**

Main Theme: “Grow in Winter”

- Environmental Issues in Winter
- Problem Solving in Citizens’ Winter Lifestyles

◇ **Thirteenth Conference, Nuuk**

Main Theme: “Climatic Changes in the Arctic”

- Climatic Changes and Living Conditions among Young People in the Arctic
- Measures against Global Warming in Winter Cities

◇ **Fourteenth Conference, Maardu**

Main Theme: “Features of Environmental Protection in Northern Cities”

- Multicultural Society in Winter Cities
- E-state

◇ **Fifteenth Conference, Ulaanbaatar**

Main Theme: “Energy Supply and Efficient Consumption of Heat Supply in Winter Cities”

- Efficient Uses of Heat Supply
- Efficient Uses of Electricity
- Air Pollution in Winter Cities and Its Methods to Decrease Air Pollution

◇ **Sixteenth Conference, Hwacheon**

Main Theme: “Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in a Winter City, and Sustainable Application Methods”

- Development of Tourism and the Promotion of Tourism Industry Using Natural Resources
- Enhancing Winter Cities Through Environmental Protection

◇ **Seventeenth Conference, Sapporo**

Main Theme: “Winter City Urban Development: Uniqueness and its Appeal”

- Urban Development Utilizing Winter
- Urban Development that Takes Advantage of Special Climate Features Outside the Winter Season
- Eco-conscious Sustainable Urban Development in Winter Cities

◇ **Eighteenth Conference, Shenyang**

Main Theme: “Winter Cities, Making Life Better!”

- Winter Cities: Precise Planning, Delicate Development and Lean Management
- New-Type Smart City Construction for Winter Cities
- Green Development of Winter Cities
- Joint Efforts for Happy Winter Cities

◇ **Nineteenth Conference, Rovaniemi**

Main Theme: “Aging Society in Winter Cities and Cold Climate”

Sub Themes:

- Challenges and Solutions to Social Marginalization
- Elderly Empowerment
- Infrastructure and Architecture for All

Working Group Discussion Topic:

- Tourism Development in Winter Cities

◇ **Twentieth Conference, Sapporo**

Main Theme: “New Possibilities for Winter Cities -Realizing a Sustainable Society-”

Special theme: GX (Green Transformation) in Winter Cities

Sub-themes:

- Environmental Policies for Winter Cities
- Urban Development for Winter Cities
- Tourism Policies for Winter Cities

Working Group Discussion Topics:

- Culture & Arts that Make the Most of Winter
- Energy in Winter Cities

Winter Expo & Winter Cities Forum

(1) Winter Expo

Along with the conference, the Mayors Conference host city can also hold the Winter Expo. The cooperation of the host city and its businesses and organizations brings forth an exhibition of various winter and snow-related machines and materials at the Expo, introducing a great range of technology and playing an important role as a stage of economic exchange for winter cities.



Winter Expo
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, January 2012



Winter Expo
Sapporo, Japan, July 2016

(2) Winter Cities Forum

The Mayors Conference host city has the opportunity to concurrently hold the Winter Cities Forum. Experts and academic researchers in various fields as well as citizens make presentations regarding winter lifestyle and city-planning, and also exchange their views with other participants.



Winter Cities Forum
Sapporo, Japan, July 2016

Working- Level Officials Meeting

The Working-Level Officials Meeting is held, in principle, every two years in the city where the Secretariat is located. During this meeting, the hosting plans and discussion themes of the next Mayors Conference as well as issues related to the management of the association are discussed.



Working-Level Officials Meeting
Norilsk, Russia, November 2019

● Conferences:

Name of Conference	Location	Duration	Number of Participating Cities
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2002	Sapporo	July 3-4, 2002	10 cities from 7 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2003	Ulaanbaatar	Sept. 13-16, 2003	9 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2004	Changchun	July 15-17, 2004	10 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2005	Taebaek	July 13-15, 2005	12 cities from 8 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2006	Nuuk	July 25-27, 2006	6 cities from 5 countries

Working-Level Officials Meeting 2007	Sapporo	July 26-28, 2007	12 cities from 8 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2008	Prince George	Aug. 21-22, 2008	12 cities from 9 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2009	Tromsø	Aug. 19-21, 2009	9 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2010	Ulaanbaatar	July 8-10, 2010	9 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2011	Sapporo	July 29-30, 2011	14 cities from 7 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2012	Hwacheon	Aug. 3-5, 2012	13 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2013	Sapporo	Aug. 1-2, 2013	15 cities from 7 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2015	Sapporo	Jul. 30-31, 2015	16 cities from 6 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2018	Sapporo	Jan. 25-26, 2018	15 cities from 5 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2019	Norilsk	Nov. 14-17, 2019	17 cities from 7 countries
Working-Level Officials Meeting 2024	Sapporo	Jan. 30-31, 2024	8 cities from 4 countries

Subcommittees

At the fourth conference in Tromsø in 1990, subcommittees were established to conduct technical research and exchange information on technology among administrators of municipal governments and engineers.

• Past Subcommittee Activities:

Subcommittee	Duration of Activities	Secretariat Location
Winter Urban Environmental Research	Mar. 1990 – Sep. 1993	Sapporo, Japan
WinterNet	Mar. 1994 – Jan. 1998	Edmonton, Canada
Waste Reduction and Recycling	Mar. 1994 – Feb. 2000	Luleå, Sweden
Winter recreation and Tourism	Feb. 1996 – Feb. 2000	Anchorage, U.S.A.
Economic Expansion	Feb. 1996 – Feb. 2000	Tromsø, Norway
Snow Management	Feb. 2000 – Feb. 2004	Prince George, Canada
Countermeasures against Natural Disasters	Feb. 2000 – Feb. 2004	Sapporo, Japan
Sustainable Winter Cities Planning	Feb. 2002 – Jan. 2006	Aomori, Japan
Measures against Terrorism in Northern Cities	Feb. 2002 – Jan. 2006	Anchorage, U.S.A.
Winter City Environmental Issues	Jan. 2006 – Jan. 2010	Sapporo, Japan

City Operations for Mitigation of Global Climate Change	Jan. 2008 – Jan. 2012	Anchorage, U.S.A.
Environmental Protection	Jan. 2010 – Jan. 2014	Changchun, China
Arctic Design	Feb. 2015 –	Rovaniemi, Finland



Environmental Protection Subcommittee
(Hwacheon Mayors Conference, January 2014)



Arctic Design Subcommittee
(Sapporo Mayors Conference, July 2016)

Revitalization Projects (Former Collaborative Projects)

- (1) At the 11th Anchorage Conference in 2004, it was resolved that collaborative projects such as tourism promotion and cultural exchange will be conducted among member cities. In accordance with the resolution, a Collaborative Project was implemented as follows until the year 2006.

• Collaborative Projects:

Projects	Venue	Duration of Events	Number of Participants
Collaborative Tourism Promotion 2002	Yokohama, Japan	Sept. 20 - 22, 2002	9 cities from 6 countries
Collaborative Tourism Promotion 2004	Tokyo, Japan	Sept. 24 - 26, 2004	6 cities from 4 countries
Collaborative Tourism Promotion 2005	Tokyo, Japan	Sept. 22 - 24, 2005	6 cities from 5 countries
Collaborative Tourism Promotion 2006	Beijing, China	June 22 - 24, 2006	5 cities from 3 countries

*Collaborative Tourism Promotion 2002 was experimentally conducted prior to the resolution at the Anchorage Conference.

- (2) It was decided at the 2007 Working-Level Officials Meeting that the Collaborative projects would be replaced by the Revitalization Projects. In order to proactively promote the WWCAM, the focus is currently on creating a well-developed website and pamphlet.
- (3) The WWCAM Promotion Project was proposed by Hwacheon (Korea) and it was approved by member cities at the 2010 WLOM in Ulaanbaatar. The project included an exhibition of traditional costumes and crafts provided by member cities. The project continued until 2014.



Exhibition of traditional costumes and crafts



World Winter City Symposium
Hwacheon, Korea, January 15, 2011

- (4) At the 2016 Mayors Conference, it was decided that the City of Sapporo would serve as the Secretariat and implement the Research Project Regarding the Application of the United Nations Information Centre.

Public Relations Activities and Publications

(1) Website

The website of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors is available in nine languages : Japanese, English, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Korean, Russian, French, Italian, and Spanish, and provides information on WWCAM activities and reports from the latest Mayors Conference. The site can be accessed by going to the following address:

<https://wwcam.org/en>



(2) Newsletter

● World Winter City News [English]

Activities and introductions of member cities of the WWCAM, as well as technology and information on winter cities are included in this English and Japanese language publication. This newsletter is issued irregularly and sent to winter cities and academic and research institutes throughout the world. This newsletter can be also accessed on our web page.

Website of the World Winter City News

https://wwcam.org/en/result/promotional_activities/newsletters



A United-Nations Registered NGO

The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors is registered as an NGO with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Department of Public Information (DPI), and plans to utilize this status in order to deepen its relations with the United Nations.

Organization and Administration

Composition

The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors consists of the member cities and defines mayors as the representative of a member city.

Officials

One President, three Vice-Presidents (one from North/South America, Asia/Oceania, and Europe), two Directors and one Auditor are elected by the General Assembly.

- Current Officials:

President	Mayor of Sapporo
Vice-President	Mayor of Edmonton [North/South America] Mayor of Hwacheon [Asia/Oceania] Mayor of Rovaniemi [Europe]
Director	Mayor of Sapporo Mayor of Norilsk
Auditor	Mayor of Harbin

General Assembly

The General Assembly, which is the ultimate decision-making organ, is convened by the President every two years in conjunction with the Mayors Conference to ratify the budgets and project plans of the Association.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is convened by the President every two years, as necessary, in conjunction with the General Assembly.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is located in the International Relations Department, General Affairs Bureau of the City of Sapporo, Japan, and the Secretary-General is the Director General of the Mayor's Office, the General Affairs Bureau of the City of Sapporo.

Operation of Association

The expenses necessary for implementing projects of the Association are covered by the revenue of the Association, such as membership fees, contributions, balances carried forward from the previous year, and other sources. Part of the expenses of the operating the Mayors Conference, Working-Level Officials Meeting, Subcommittees, Revitalization Projects and Secretariat are covered by the income of the Association.

	Percent of Budget
Mayors Conference Expenses	60%
Working-Level Officials Meeting Expenses	10%
Revitalization Project Expenses	15%
Secretariat Expenses	10%
Research Subcommittee Expenses	5%

Membership Procedure

Application for Membership

Any mayor wishing to become a member of the Association can apply to the President for membership. The decision will be made at the meeting of the Board of Directors.

Membership Fee

Member cities must pay an annual membership fee, in U.S. dollars, between January 1 and March 31. The fee is calculated in accordance with their per-capita GDP and their population. The fee for the first year of membership will be half the amount indicated in the table.

Annual Membership Fees (January 1 - December 31)

(Unit: US\$)

population \ GDP	0-9,999	10,000 or more
0 -499,999	\$1,000	\$2,000
500,000 -999,999	\$1,500	\$4,000
1,000,000 or more	\$2,000	\$6,000

Each member shall pay annual membership fees in accordance with its per-capita GDP and its population. The fee will be calculated according to the following sources.

- (1) Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of each country
Source: United Nations, "Statistical Yearbook"
- (2) Urban population (population of each city, excluding population of suburban areas)
Source: United Nations, "Demographic Yearbook"
Populations of cities which are not included in the above material shall be assessed by the respective cities themselves.

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 the publications of the Association, including newsletters. They are also qualified to apply for hosting the Mayors Conference and Winter Cities Showcase. In addition, they are eligible to utilize the network system established among members.

Applications are to be sent to:

Secretariat
World Winter Cities Association for Mayors
c/o International Relations Department, City of Sapporo
Kita 1 Nishi 2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8611 Japan
Tel: +81-11-211-2032, Fax: +81-11-218-5168
E-mail: wwcam@city.sapporo.jp
<https://wwcam.org/en>

Major Outcomes (based on the survey polled by member cities)

Overall Outcomes

(1) Enhance international status and promote international relations

[Prince George]

Through IAMNC activities, Prince George could publicize its name. Particularly, the city could introduce itself to member cities by holding the Board of Secretaries Meeting other than in Sapporo in October 2000.

[Harbin]

Through the 8th Mayors Conference held in Harbin in 1998, Harbin could publicize its name to cities in northern regions.

[Shenyang]

Through the 2nd Northern Intercity Conference, Shenyang could improve its recognition, and deepen mutual understanding and friendship among member cities. Moreover, the city could accumulate know-how to host international conferences.

[Kiruna]

Experience of international exchange through the IAMNC is a significant outcome.

(2) Information Sharing

[Qiqihar]

It is useful for various fields in the city to exchange technology and information among winter cities with common natural environment.

[Shenyang]

Through the IAMNC activities, the city could obtain useful information in order to cope with issues common to winter cities.

[Kiruna]

The city learned from other cities with similar climate, and could obtain knowledge when necessary.

Cases of Practical Use (Advanced Cases Study and Practical Application)

(1) Winter Tourism Resource

[Changchun]

When visited Kiruna to attend the 9th Mayors Conference in 2000, the city became interested in an ice hotel. It was informative to draw up measures to attract tourists from southern regions.

[Harbin, Qiqihar]

Through mutual visits by member cities, the cities learned experience and knowledge to make the city's winter more attractive. For example, the cities learned that Sapporo succeeded in utilizing snow and ice as a tourism resource.

[Shenyang]

Through the discussion made at the 8th Mayors Conference held in Harbin in 1998, the city learned innovative ideas to enhance cultural activities in winter and promoted an ice and snow project.

[Ulaanbaatar]

The city sent its officials to the Sapporo Snow Festival held in February 2002 and learned the know-hows of the festival, and held the first snow festival in Ulaanbaatar in 2003.

[Kiruna]

The city learned the know-hows of making snow statues and ice sculptures from the Sapporo Snow Festival. During winter, an ice hotel is built aiming to attract tourists.

(2) Personnel Exchanges

[Prince George, Kiruna, Luleå]

Taking the occasion of the Board of Secretaries Meeting held in Prince George, Prince George, Luleå, Kiruna and Marquette, Michigan, U.S.A. where then president of the WCA resided, made an agreement on exchange of snow removal technology and mutually sent city officials in 2001.

[Prince George, Aomori]

As part of the activities of the Snow Management Subcommittee, an exchange of personnel in charge of snow removal was implemented between Prince George and Aomori. The cities learned concrete measures and technologies related to snow removal, and incorporated them into future challenges.

[Ulaanbaatar]

Since the year 2001, a senior official has been sent to the City of Sapporo for six months, and training programs in various fields such as culture, waste management, snow removal and administrative management have been given to a trainee.

(3) Youth Exchanges

[Aomori, Luleå]

Elementary school students of Luleå and Aomori conducted a meeting through the Internet in 2001. Mutual understanding among the students was deepened by introducing school life, culture and games to each other.

(4) Cultural Exchanges

[Aomori]

Winter Cities Art Exhibition was concurrently held with the 10th Mayors Conference in Aomori in 2002. Great artistry fostered by natural features and ethnicity peculiar to northern regions was reacknowledged and mutual understanding in culture was deepened.

(5) Infrastructure

[Jiamusi] 【Introduction of advanced road construction technology】

The city sent a road inspection team to Anchorage in 1996, and learned road construction technology to prevent cracks on the winter road surface and snow removal methods which were incorporated in the city's projects.

[Qiqihar] 【Urban development projects】

Visited Sweden in 2001 and conducted business talks on projects such as geothermal energy, greening and housing construction.

[Kiruna] 【Frontage snow removal】

Frontage snow removal machines developed by the City of Prince George, which is a snow removal method that does not leave snow mounds in front of houses, were introduced.

[Aomori] 【Use of sodium lamps】

Adopted sodium lamps used in Anchorage, and promotes introducing sodium lamps when installing and renewing.

【Improvement of snow disposal facilities utilizing natural energy】

Practically used "road heating system utilizing seawater heat resource" which was introduced at the Forum at the 9th Mayors Conference in Luleå and Kiruna in 2000, and adopted it to roads in city center. Also applied road heating system utilizing other natural energy, ground heat to the city center and have promoted introducing

snow-melting system with less impact on the environment.

【Promoting improvement of citizens' snow removal awareness】

“Snow Force,” a volunteer group with special uniforms consisting of both public and private employees engaging in snow clearance and disposal aiming at morale boost was formed in Prince George. Citizens' organization “Northern Life Study Group” was formed in Aomori, and publicized citizens' engagement in regional snow removal in order to improve citizens' snow removal awareness adopting the ideas of “Snow Force.” The group conducts “Snow Knight Projects” to reward accomplishments in snow removal, and as part of the projects, uniforms are presented.

[Sapporo] 【Planting of evergreen trees】

Evergreen trees are planted in public spaces like center dividers of trunk roads in order to prevent snowstorms in the area and to preserve appearance. Overuse of evergreen trees makes the area dim, and use of evergreen for roadside trees might cause danger of sliding snow accumulated on the leaves. Therefore, evergreen trees and deciduous trees are efficiently used.

【Regulations for studded tires】

Studded tires have high efficiency for braking; on the other hand, the road surface maintenance caused by scraping paved road surface is tremendous and it also impacts the environment with noise and dust. Under such circumstances, other cities' case examples related to studded tires were introduced at the first Northern Intercity Conference held in Sapporo in 1982. These case reports encouraged the City of Sapporo to take the first full-scale step toward studded tire measures. After the city actively worked on enactment of regulations and laws, it realized a total ban on the use of studded tires in 1990.

【Introduction of hydroelectric power】

As part of energy conservation measures, electric energy has been generated at the Moiwa Water Treatment Plant since 1984. Electricity generated is 330kWh and it is equivalent to the amount of electricity consumed by 100~150 general households.

【Introduction of sodium lamps】

To conduct energy-saving measures and to improve visibility when snow is falling, street lights were changed from mercury lamps to sodium lamps. As of April 2003, the number of sodium lamps is 70,795, equivalent to about 73% of the number of entire street lights in the city, 96,874. From the perspective of promoting ISO14001, sodium lamps should be actively introduced in the future.

【Promotion of snow hockey】

In order to promote a lifelong sport enjoyed all through the year, snow hockey was thought out, and the first Sapporo Mayor's Cup Snow Hockey Meet was held in 1983. This hockey meet has been continuously held, and the 20th meet was held in 2003 with the participation of 57 teams and 580 athletes consisting of mostly elementary school students. Snow hockey has become a popular winter sport for children.

【Promotion of cross-country ski courses】

To promote citizens' recreation and sports in winter, permanent cross-country ski courses were developed in Nakajima Park in 1983. Currently, a 1km-course is set up for beginners and 150 ski sets with boots are lent for free from December to March. There are 14 permanent cross-country ski courses in the city.

【Opening parks in winter and introducing wooden play equipment】

Since 1983, introduction of wooden play equipment and opening parks in winter have been actively implemented so that children can play outside even in winter. In the late '80s, opening in winter was promoted in many parks. On the other hand, snow removal in the parks made themselves snow-dumping sites, and wooden play equipment

is not actually used because of the matters with maintenance, durability and introduction cost.

【Role sharing between the city and the citizens】

In order to efficiently manage parks and to expand opportunities for citizens' participation, parks have been managed in cooperation of the city and the citizens. Cleaning and weeding in children's parks, which is done three times a year, is entrusted to neighborhood associations.

【Cityscape development】

It is important to develop attractive cityscape characteristics of northern cities sufficiently considering colors and shapes of buildings so as to create a livable urban environment and upgrade citizen's culture. Case examples related to cityscape were introduced at the first Northern Intercity Conference held in Sapporo in 1982, which led the City of Sapporo to initiate full-scale urban landscape development. Sapporo Urban Landscape Award was founded in 1983, and Sapporo Urban Landscape Code was enforced in 1998.

World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

Application for Membership

1. City: _____

2. Country: _____

3. Representative (Mayor): _____

4. Department in charge of World Winter Cities Association for Mayors Affairs: _____

Name of the contact person and their title: _____

Telephone number: _____

Fax number: _____

E-mail: _____

URL of your city's website: _____

Mailing address: _____

5. Population: _____ (As of _____) Month/Year

6. Major issues your city is dealing with at present: _____

7. Issues to be discussed at the Mayors Conference: _____

Date: _____ Mayor's Name: _____ (Signature)

Name in print: _____

Title: _____

※Please send an annual report of your municipal government along with this form to:

World Winter Cities Association for Mayors Secretariat
c/o International Relations Department, City of Sapporo
Kita 1 Nishi 2, Chuo-ku, Sapporo 060-8611, Japan
Tel: +81-11-211-2032
Fax: +81-11-218-5168
E-mail: wwcam@city.sapporo.jp

First Conference, Sapporo

Host city: Sapporo, Japan
(Mayor: Takeshi Itagaki)
Site: Sapporo Education and Culture Hall
Period: February 7-10, 1982
Participants: 9 cities from 6 countries
Edmonton (Canada)
Harbin, Shenyang (China)
Helsinki (Finland)
Munich (Germany)
Sapporo (Japan)
Anchorage, Minneapolis, Portland (U.S.A.)
Observers:
18 cities and 3 towns from Japan

Themes and reporters

1. Future direction in city planning in the northern regions

The livable winter city (City land- scaping and architecture appropriate for cold regions) Minneapolis
Measures to cope with increasing population and basic principles for urban development Edmonton
Planning of park areas and open spaces Munich

2. Transportation problems

Transportation in the wintertime and snow removal measures Sapporo

3. Improving living environments

Conservation of energy, improvement of environment, and utilization of coal gas in the city Shenyang
Cold-resistant housing and district heating systems Helsinki
Energy conservation policies .. Portland

4. Promotion of arts, sports, culture, and recreation

Promotion of a city with individuality and citizens' culture Harbin
Winter recreation Anchorage
Promotion of winter sports for citizens Sapporo

Outcome of the Conference

1. A new concept, "Winter is a Resource and Asset," was adopted by the participants, viewing the severe natural conditions of

snow and cold as unique advantages of winter cities.

2. Touched off by the Northern Intercity Conference, an international research organization of winter cities' problems, "Winter Cities Association (WCA)," was formed, with the hope of mutually complementing the Northern Intercity Conference.

3. The City of Sapporo chose nine ideas, which had the potential of actually being utilized in Sapporo, out of 65 items reported during the Conference. A project team was formed within City Hall and new projects were executed to improve city planning.

Utilization of the ideas of The Northern Intercity Conference Examples in Sapporo

Planting of evergreen trees

Along roadsides

The basic idea was to plant evergreen trees on divider strips on roads 7 m or wider. They were experimentally planted on some streets in 1983 and 1984.

In parks

About 30% of the total number of planted trees should be evergreen trees. Research on landscape and managerial problems took place in large parks.

In city-owned facilities

About 30% of the total number of planted trees should be evergreen trees. Trees were experimentally planted in various places in 1982 and 1983.

Regulations for studded tires

The guidance standard which restricts the period of studded tire use was set up and has executed since April, 1983. An ordinance was enacted in April, 1987. The Law on the Prevention of Dust Pollution Caused by Studded Tires was enacted on June 18, 1990.

Measures to save energy**Introduction of hydroelectric power**

Hydroelectric power generation was put into use at the Moiwa Filtration Plant (for home consumption: 330 KWH) (operated in 1984).

Use of sodium lamps

Lamps 200W or less to be gradually replaced by sodium lamps. Also, lights for various facilities and athletic grounds to be replaced by sodium lamps as much as possible.

Facility construction in conformity with winter: Construction of public underground walkways

Public underground walkways constructed between stations of two different subway lines at Sapporo Station.

Use of parks in winter

With cooperation of the communities, snow was experimentally removed from a few parks in each ward district and wooden play equipment was installed (executed in 1982).

Introduction of wooden play equipment

Wooden play equipment to be installed in newly established parks on request from local communities, although such equipment has relatively short life and needs constant maintenance.

Promotion of art, sports and recreation in winter**To hold sports and recreation events in conjunction with the Snow Festival**

Ski meets and various events on snow planned in each ward to be held in conjunction with the Snow Festival when possible (executed since 1982).

Illumination for ice sculptures

Ice sculptures are illuminated at the Odori site (Citizens' Sculpture Exhibition) and the Susukino site (Ice Festival) (executed since 1982).

Development and promotion of new**sports and recreation**

Promotion of snow hockey (executed in 1982). Snow sculpture exhibitions, sports meets on a horse race track such as horse sleigh races, snow mobile races and sailing ski races, as well as the Children's Snow Festival in Maruyama Zoo were held (executed in 1982).

Improvement of cross-country ski courses

Permanent cross-country ski course in Nakajima Park was improved (executed in 1982).

Citizens' participation

At present, neighborhood associations are entrusted to manage children's parks, and the application of the same system is under consideration for neighborhood parks.

Urban landscape

Colors and shapes of buildings to be designed, when possible, based on the opinions of the City Landscape Committee. Urban Landscaping Award was established.

Suburban green park

The park was opened along a river in Shi-roishi Ward in the spring of 1986.

Skyway

The introduction of a skyway to the North-Exit Plaza of the Sapporo Railway Station is under consideration.

Second Conference, Shenyang

Host city: Shenyang, China
(Mayor: Wu Disheng)
Site: International Conference Hall
Shenyang Guest House
Period: September 19 - 22, 1985
Participants: 10 cities from 6 countries:
Edmonton (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Shenyang (China)
Munich (Germany)
Turin (Italy)
Takikawa, Sapporo (Japan)
Chicago, Portland (U.S.A.)
Observers: 6 cities from China

Keynote report:

"Result of the 1st Northern Intercity Conference and its application"
..... Mayor of Sapporo

Themes and reporters

1. Planning and construction of the northern city

Unified planning and comprehensive control - an effective way of transformation of an old city Shenyang
Appropriate city size and urban planning Sapporo
Urbanism and construction (Development of urban environment which is not affected by climate) Edmonton
The new economics of urban management (Transportation, air pollution, energy saving)..... Chicago

2. Utilization and exploitation of energy and economic development in northern cities

Energy conservation and economic growth Portland
Utilization and exploitation of energy in the northern cities Munich

3. Afforestation and cultural activities in the northern cities

The system and characteristics of afforestation Changchun
Afforestation and cultural life Edmonton
Organize the activities on the ice and snow, liven up the cultural life of the cit-

izens Harbin

4. Exploitation and utilization of water resources, preservation and excavation of cultural relics in the northern cities

Utilization of river water -- On protecting and making use of the river environment Takikawa
Promoting urban construction and resources of historical relics Shenyang
The utilization of industrial waste water and high-tech center of project of Turin Trade Center Turin

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

First International Goodwill Junior Sports Meet among sister cities: Soccer

Outcome of the Conference

1. The keynote report presented by the City of Sapporo, "Result of the First Northern Intercity Conference and its Application," attracted the attention of the participants by suggesting that international conferences can be something more than just temporary events.
2. The "International Winter Cities Forum" initiated by Arni Fullerton, City Planner, who participated in the Shenyang Conference, was held in Edmonton in February 1986. This forum aimed at providing scholars, researchers, and businessmen with an opportunity for global study and discussion. The mayor of Sapporo delivered a keynote speech entitled "Sapporo Initiative" at this Forum.
3. Using the idea from the First Conference of using sodium lamps for energy conservation, sodium lamps were installed along the street running from the airport to the guest house.

Third Conference, Edmonton

Host city: Edmonton, Canada
(Mayor: Laurence Decore)

Period: February 13 - 15, 1988

Participants: 17 cities from 12 countries

Innsbruck (Austria)
Edmonton, Hull (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Shenyang (China)
Helsinki (Finland)
Albertville (France)
Munich (Germany)
Takikawa, Sapporo (Japan)
Oslo, Tromsø (Norway)
Stockholm (Sweden)
Leningrad (U.S.S.R.)
Minneapolis (U.S.A.)
Sarajevo (Yugoslavia)

Observers: 3 cities from 3 countries
Hamilton (Canada); Nayoro (Japan);
Leeds (U.K.)

Main theme: Business of winter

Themes and reporters

1. Economic development in winter cities -- Potentials of winter cities

Edmonton's economic development
..... Edmonton
Creating industries based upon the
northern climate Sapporo
Skywalks to economic development
..... Minneapolis
Winter tourism and the 1992 Winter
Olympics Albertville
Economic development in Sarajevo
..... Sarajevo

2. Urban environment in winter cities

The use of recycled materials in building
construction and the impact upon the city
environment Changchun
Innsbruck's experience as host city for
two Olympic Games Innsbruck
Development of facilities for solving ur-
ban problems Leningrad
Road maintenance and environmental
protection Munich
A modern capital with old-world charm
..... Stockholm
Solution to winter urban problems (heat-
ing, transportation, and recreation)
..... Helsinki

Various ways of enjoying winter ... Oslo
The winter city responsibility Hull
A rational development of the water re-
sources of Shenyang Shenyang
How to live with winter in a region at
70°N Tromsø
The environment protecting in winter
..... Harbin
Aiming at a comfortable life in winter
..... Takikawa

Events held in conjunction with the Con- ference

'88 Winter Cities Showcase

— Winter Cities Forum '88

Participants: About 800 people

from 45 cities in 16 countries

— Winter Expo '88

107 corporations from 5 countries

— Winter Cities Award Competition

Winter Fashion Show

Japan Week (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Japan, etc.)

The Northern Intercity Conference and the
'88 Winter Cities Showcase became im-
portant supporting events for the Olympic
Winter Games in Calgary.

Outcome of the Conference

1. The Winter Cities Showcase was held for
the first time in conjunction with the
Northern Intercity Conference and was
the largest winter convention in northern
regions, where people from different
fields, including industries, academic in-
stitutes, and governments, gathered to-
gether.

2. The simultaneous holding of the North-
ern Intercity Conference and Winter Cit-
ies Showcase augmented interest con-
cerning comfortable winter city develop-
ment among residents, people from in-
dustrial fields and research organizations.
The "Winter Cities Movement" with the
slogan, "Winter is a Resource and Asset",
is spreading from Canada to the world.

3. Establishment of the Northern Intercity
Conference Committee (NICC) and In-

ternational Head Office was decided at the Conference in order to better coordinate the selection of the next host city of the Conference, and to better organize other events. The Mayor of Sapporo took the office of Chairman, the mayors of Shenyang and Edmonton Standing Members, and the mayors of Sarajevo and Helsinki Non-Standing Members. The International Head Office was established in the International Relations Department of the City of Sapporo, after the Conference, in April 1988.

4. It was decided that the International Winter Cities Committee (IWCC) would be responsible as Secretariat for the Winter Cities Showcase.
5. Taking into consideration the proposal made by the city of Hull, Canada, regarding environmental pollution caused by de-icers and air pollution caused by the use of studded tires, the City of Sapporo conducted a survey and analyzed the conditions in northern cities. The report, "Survey on Snow Removal in Northern Cities", was compiled in March 1989.
6. A survey report, "The Business of Winter", published by The Economist Publications Limited in England as basic material for the Third Northern Intercity Conference, scientifically defined the word, "Winter Zone," for the first time. It also presented geometric, demographic and economic analyses to identify a potential large market in the winter zone.
7. With the participation of five cities which had hosted the Olympic Games, in addition to St. Petersburg (formerly Leningrad) from the East, the Conference showed potential to grow beyond the boundary of East and West into a real "International Winter Cities Union."

8. Networking among northern cities was formed and interchanges between different fields became active. Such examples are the "Stockholm High-Tech Economic Seminar" (April 1988, Sapporo); the "Sapporo Day in Stockholm" (August, 1988); and the "Arctic Housing Seminar, Tromsø, Norway" (November 1988, Sapporo).

9. A sister-city affiliation was established between two participating cities, Edmonton and Harbin.

Fourth Conference, Tromsø

Host city: Tromsø, Norway
(Mayor: Erlend Rian)
Site: Festival Hall
Period: March 2 - 4, 1990
Participants: 20 cities from 10 countries:
Innsbruck (Austria)
Calgary, Edmonton, Hull, Montréal (Canada)
Harbin, Shenyang (China)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Oulu, Tampere (Finland)
Albertville (France)
Takikawa, Sapporo (Japan)
Lillehammer, Oslo, Tromsø (Norway)
Luleå, Stockholm (Sweden)
Anchorage, Minneapolis (U.S.A.)
Observers: 2 cities from 2 countries
Yellowknife (Canada); Leeds (U.K.)
New Non-Standing Committee Members:
Innsbruck, Minneapolis

Main theme:

Warm Winter Cities - quality of life and economic development

Themes and reporters

1. Urban Transportation in Winter

A Transportation System for the People Oslo
Keeping Edmonton Mobile in Winter Edmonton
Techniques Related to Urban Transportation Measures in Winter Sapporo

2. Comprehensive City Planning

Comprehensive City Building Anchorage
Snow Crater: permanent disposal site for unwanted snow Hull

3. Development of Winter Technology

Technical Development Based on District Character Luleå
A City: Call It Winter Montréal
Aiming to Be a City of Technology Oulu
Nuuk's Long-Term City Planning Nuuk

4. Art and Culture of Winter Cities

The Blessing of Winter Beauty...Harbin
Environment for Art and Culture in the Winter Cities Lillehammer
Art and Culture Provide Character and Vitality to the Community Minneapolis

Other reports

Survey on Snow Removal Conditions in Northern Cities Sapporo

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

'90 Winter Cities Showcase
— Winter Cities Forum '90
Participants: About 1,000 people from 20 countries
— Winter Expo '90
310 corporations and organizations from 7 countries
— Winter Cities Award Competition
Fourth Arctic Housing Expo

Other supporting events

The city of Tromsø named this year as "Tromsø Winter Cities Year '90," and positioned about 30 conventions planned this year as supporting events of the Northern Intercity Conference and Winter Cities Showcase.

Northern Light Festival of Classical Music
World Speed Skating Championships (Spring)
PIARC International Winter Road Congress
United Nations ECE Colloquium on Cold Climate Housing
National Council of Municipal Housing Administration
World Congress of Indigenous Peoples

Cultural Events

Theater shows and concerts were presented every day.

Outcome of the Conference

1. The report, "Survey on Snow Removal Conditions in Northern Cities," presented by the City of Sapporo, created a sensation among the

participants as each city recognized the necessity of stronger cooperation in studying snow removal. Taking into consideration the proposal made by the City of Sapporo, it was decided to establish the Winter Urban Environmental Research Subcommittee, consisting of technocrats from seven participating cities. The first meeting was held in Sapporo, in February 1991.

2. The City of Edmonton suggested the necessity of a regular information exchange among northern cities, including the establishment of a database concerning winter cities' problems and their solutions. It was decided to continue further study on this subject.
3. It was decided to hold a preliminary meeting for better operation of the Northern Intercity Conference and the preparation of the next Northern Intercity Conference. It was decided that the Preliminary Conference for the Montréal Conference would be held in Sapporo.

Fifth Conference, Montréal

Host city: Montréal, Canada
(Mayor: Jean Dore)

Site: Montréal Convention Center

Period: January 17 - 21, 1992

Participants: 34 cities from 11 countries:
Innsbruck (Austria)
Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Hull, Laval,
Montréal, Ottawa, Quebec City, Regina,
St. Johns, Winnipeg, Yellowknife (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Qiqihar,
Shenyang (China)
Prague (Czechoslovakia)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Helsinki, Oulu (Finland)
Grenoble (France)
Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa (Japan)
Lillehammer, Oslo, Tromsø (Norway)
Luleå, Stockholm (Sweden)
Anchorage, Minneapolis (U.S.A.)

Observers: 13 cities from 3 countries:
Baie James, Beaconsfield, Boucherville,
Chibougamau, Grandby, Lasalle, Magog,
Matagami, Montmagny, Repentigny,
Sherbrooke (Canada); Kiruna (Sweden);
Bratsk (Russia)

Supported by:
United Nations Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Main theme:

The series of events, including the Northern Intercity Conference, was called the "5th International Winter Cities Biennial, Montréal 1992" with the generic theme of "Living in harmony with winter."

Themes and reporters

Outline of the report compiled by the Winter Urban Environmental Research Subcommittee Sapporo, Montréal

Sessions

1. Environment
2. Urban planning
3. Health and physical strength

Signing the declaration

Thirty-two mayors signed a "Common Declaration on Behalf of Cities and Local

Authorities," a statement drawn up at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992 as an appeal for sustainable urban development, protection of the environment, and international cooperation at local levels.

The Second Winter Urban Environmental Research Subcommittee Meeting

The Subcommittee meeting had been held the day before the Conference, and the report, "Harmony between Road Management and Environment in Winter," was presented by the mayors of Sapporo and Montréal at the Conference.

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

'92 Winter Cities Showcase
— Winter Cities Forum '92
Participants: About 675 people
— Winter Expo '92
211 corporations from 6 countries
— Winter Cities Award Competition
42 items were submitted
Business Worldwide
Community Program
10th Snow Festival
44 other cultural and sport events
Polar Tech '92
'92 Expo Habitat

Supporting event

"The 5th International Winter Cities Biennial, Montréal 1992" became a supporting event to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the establishment of Montréal and the 500th anniversary of the arrival of the first settler on the north American continent.

Outcome of the Conference

1. The fact that the Northern Intercity Conference gained support from UNESCO proves its worldwide recognition.
2. The on-line system of the Northern Intercity Information Exchange Program proposed by the Mayor of Edmonton at the Tromsø Conference, had been tested between Edmonton

and Sapporo just before the Conference. During the Conference, the participating mayors reached an accord on the full-scale establishment of this project.

3. The report, "Harmony between Road Management and Environment in Winter," compiled by the Winter Urban Environmental Research Subcommittee, outlined guidelines for snow management, including development of a less polluting de-icer as substitute for salt, snow melting gutters, and a road heating system. It enjoyed an affirmative evaluation as a guidebook for each northern city. The continuation of the Subcommittee was agreed.
4. Thirty-two mayors signed a "Common Declaration on Behalf of Cities and Local Authorities" for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. This signified the northern cities mayors' commitment toward the recognition of cities' roles in protecting the world's environment.

Sixth Conference, Anchorage

Host city: Anchorage, U.S.A.
(Mayor: Tom Fink)
Site: Hotel Captain Cook
Period: March 5 - 10, 1994
Participants: 30 cities from 10 countries:
Innsbruck (Austria)
Calgary, Edmonton, Hull, Montréal,
Quebec, Winnipeg, Yellowknife (Canada)
Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Qiqihar, Shenyang
(China)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Helsinki (Finland)
Aomori, Chitose, Sapporo, Takikawa (Ja-
pan)
Tromsø (Norway)
Bratsk (Russia)
Kiruna, Luleå Stockholm (Sweden)
Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Kenai Penin-
sula, Marquette, Valdez (U.S.A.)

Main theme: North to the Future

Themes and reporters

1. Communications

Keynote speech: "Developments in
Communications Technology"
.....E. R. Kerkeslager
Vice-President for Technology, AT&T
Case report Anchorage

2. Transportation

Keynote speech: "International Air Com-
merce"Jeffrey Shane, Attorney
Law Offices of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
Case report Tromsø

3. Health

Keynote speech: "Changes in the Global
Climate"
Sallie Baliunas, Hoover Institution
Case report Winnipeg

4. Business

Keynote speech: "Marketing Winter Des-
tinations and Winter Tourism"
Dennis Brandon
President, Alaska Visitors Association
Case report Jilin

Inauguration of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

As the Charter of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities became effective on January 1, 1994 and the selected officials, project plans, and budgets were approved at the first general assembly on March 7, 1994, the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities formally began functioning.

Officials:

President
Mayor of Sapporo (Japan)
Vice-Presidents
Mayors of Shenyang (China)
Edmonton (Canada),
Tromsø (Norway)
Standing Directors
Mayors of Anchorage (U.S.A.)
Winnipeg (Canada)
Non-Standing Directors
Mayor of Innsbruck (Austria)
Auditor
Mayor of Luleå (Sweden)
Secretariat
International Relations Department
City of Sapporo

Subcommittee Activities

1. WinterNet (International Winter Cities Information Network) Project

..... Edmonton
The City of Edmonton presented an over-
view plan of the WinterNet while
demonstrating the system. Twenty-four
cities signed the resolution to establish a
subcommittee for promoting the project,
to locate its secretariat in Edmonton, and
to join the WinterNet.

2. Report from the Winter Urban Environmental Research Subcommittee.....Sapporo

The Technical Manual on Winter
Road Management was presented to
the Conference, the product of four
years of research and study con-
ducted by the Subcommittee. This
final report concludes that there is

as yet no practical substitute de-icer for salt in terms of cost and effectiveness. However, it urges the reduction of salt usage for environmental reasons. The manual contains case reports of various winter cities of the world.

3. Waste Recycling Subcommittee established

According to the results of the questionnaire sent to various winter cities, "controlling the source of urban waste and recycling technology" was chosen as second-most important issue to deal with, after the issue of snow removal. Consequently, the Association resolved to establish a Waste Recycling Subcommittee to conduct research and study, while approving Luleå as the Secretariat.

Selection of the Host City of the 1998 Conference of Mayors and Showcase

In the past, applications to host the Northern Intercity Conference and the Winter Cities Showcase were separately received and taken care of by the former Northern Intercity Conference Committee and the International Winter Cities Committee, respectively. However, the system was streamlined this time, and the host city selection criteria, common to the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors and the Winter Cities Showcase, was established to define various conditions to host the events. According to this new system, applications to host the events are jointly received by both organizations, and candidate cities make presentations on their candidacy. Consequently, the selection of the host city is made at the Conference.

Of the three candidate cities, Harbin (China), Yellowknife (Canada), and Canada's Capital Region (composed of eight municipalities, including Ottawa and Hull), Harbin was selected by a votes of the officials as the city to host the 1998 Conference of Mayors and Showcase.

Resolutions

1. A Subcommittee on the WinterNet will be established and the City of Edmonton will serve as the Secretariat for the Subcommittee.
2. A subcommittee on urban waste recycling technology will be established and the City of Luleå will serve as the Secretariat for the Subcommittee.
3. The City of Montréal will conduct a study on the subject of urban winter cities infrastructure rehabilitation and will report on its outcome at the Conference of Mayors to be held in Winnipeg in 1996.
4. The Secretariat will research the use of tax revenues to promote tourism and report on the results of this study at the Conference of Mayors to be held in Winnipeg in 1996.
5. Member cities of the Association encourage governments to negotiate multilateral air agreements between circumpolar countries to support commerce between the winter cities.
6. The late Takeshi Itagaki, a former Mayor of Sapporo, is honored for his contributions to the Winter Cities Movement and for his efforts which have led to the establishment of this Association.
7. The late Wu Disheng, a former Mayor of Shenyang, is honored for his contributions to the Winter Cities Movement and to this Association.
8. The parties concerned are urged to seek a swift and peaceful resolution to the crisis in Sarajevo (which was a Non-Standing Member of the Northern Intercity Conference Committee) in the former nation of Yugoslavia.
9. The City of Harbin will host the 1998 Conference of Mayors.
10. The Association honored Mayor Tom Fink and commended the citizens of the Municipality of Anchorage for hosting the Sixth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors.

Winter Cities Showcase Anchorage '94

1. Fifth Winter Cities Forum

(Participants: 600)

Lectures were delivered by specialists and professionals of various fields on 36 different themes, at the plenary session and at four sub-session meetings of Business, Communications, Health and Life. The talks were followed by very active exchange of ideas and opinions.

2. Fourth International Winter Expo

(135 exhibitors from corporations and various organizations from six countries / 11,000 visitors)

Twenty-four corporations and ten public organizations from Japan exhibited in a Japanese booth entitled "Top of Japan." Major items displayed were products related to snow melting, environmental protection and recycling. High-tech information was presented in accordance with the main theme of the Conference of Mayors. Many business agreements were struck there.

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

1. Fifth Annual International Ice Carving Competition
2. Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race Start
3. Seventh Annual Tour of Anchorage Ski Race
4. International Music Festival
5. Musical Theatre
6. Northern Lights Aurora Show
7. Home Visit Program

Other Event

At the Winter Cities Anchorage '94 Opening Ceremony, a commemorative medal was awarded posthumously, from Mayor Tom Fink of the Municipality of Anchorage, to the late Takeshi Itagaki, former Chairman of the Northern Intercity Conference Committee (former Mayor of Sapporo) in honor of his contributions.

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

21 cities of eight countries

Austria:	Innsbruck
Canada:	Edmonton, Hull, Winnipeg, Yellowknife
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Denmark (Greenland):	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa
Norway:	Tromsø
Sweden:	Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm
U.S.A.:	Anchorage, Barrow

As of June 26, 1995

Seventh Conference, Winnipeg

Host city: Winnipeg, Canada
(Mayor: Susan A. Thompson)

Site: Winnipeg Convention Centre

Term: February 9 - 12, 1996

Participants: 33 cities from 9 countries
Winnipeg, Brandon, Thompson, Churchill, Teulon, Edmonton, St. Albert, Strathcona, Prince George, Saskatoon, Montréal, Quebec City, Yellowknife, White Horse (Canada)
Shenyang, Harbin, Changchun, Jiamusi (China)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Reykjavik (Iceland)
Sapporo, Takikawa, Aomori (Japan)
Tromsø, Kautokeino (Norway)
Bratsk, Ust-Ilimsk (Russia)
Luleå, Kiruna, Stockholm (Sweden)
Anchorage, Marquette, Grand Forks (U.S.A.)

Main theme:

Global Living - Living, Working and Playing in the Winter City

Themes and reporters

1. Economic development

Keynote speech: "Warming the North for Business Development"
...Alvhild Yttergard, Mayor of Tromsø

2. Accessibility

Keynote speech: "Accessibility in Winter Cities"Kalle
Konkkola Worldwide Chairperson of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI)

3. Leisure and recreation

Keynote speech: "How are the long-term needs of winter-city citizens being met?" Ms. Diana Smith,
President of DMS Consulting Co., Ltd.

New Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Tromsø

Mayors of Shenyang (reelected)

Mayors of Edmonton (reelected)

Standing Directors:

Mayor of Winnipeg

Mayor of Harbin (newly elected)

Non-Standing Director:

Mayor of Stockholm (newly elected)

Auditor:

Mayor of Luleå

Mayors' Conference and Forum

At the Opening and Closing Ceremonies joint plenary sessions were held, for the first time, for the participants of the Mayors' Conference and Winter Forum, and keynote speeches were delivered.

Opening Plenary Session

"Accessibility - Experiences of an around-the-world trip by wheel chair"
Keynote speaker: Mr. Rick Hansen (a physically disabled resident of Vancouver)

Closing Plenary Session

"Summary of the Winnipeg Winter Cities Showcase '96" Dr. Nola-Kate Seymoar, Deputy to the President of the International Institute for Sustainable Development in Winnipeg

Reports

1. WinterNet Subcommittee by Edmonton
2. Waste Recycling Subcommittee by Luleå
3. Research on the Use of Tax Revenues to Promote Tourism by the Secretariat

Selection of the Host City of the 2000 Conference of Mayors and Showcase

There were three candidate city groups to host the ninth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors and the Forum: Aomori, Japan; Luleå and Kiruna (joint host), Sweden; Reykjavik, Iceland. And joint hosting by Luleå and Kiruna was approved by the Officials' vote.

Resolutions

1. In order to promote tourism in northern cities, a research subcommittee shall be established and Anchorage shall function as its Secretariat.

2. In order to promote economic expansion in northern cities, a research subcommittee shall be established and Tromsø shall function as its Secretariat.
3. WinterNet developed by the Edmonton Secretariat is the information system of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities and member cities shall be encouraged to use the system and to build and expand their individual city information data base.
4. Participating cities in the Winnipeg Conference shall take into consideration in city planning, accessibility requirements as outlined in the Disabled Peoples' International Proposal.
5. The secretariats of IAMNC and Winter Cities Association are requested to undertake discussions on how the IAMNC and WCA may work together more closely, while respecting the integrity of the individual organizations.
6. Persons listed below who have made contributions to the development of the IAMNC shall be granted honorary membership: Dr. Donald Fraser, former Mayor of Minneapolis, Mr. Jean Dore, former Mayor of Montréal, Mr. Erlend Rian, former Mayor of Tromsø, Mr. Tom Fink, former Mayor of Anchorage, Mr. Romuald Niescher, former Mayor of Innsbruck, and Ms. Jan Reimer, former Mayor of Edmonton.
7. Kiruna and Luleå Sweden shall jointly host the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors in 2000.
8. Ms. Susan A. Thompson, Mayor of Winnipeg, who hosted the seventh Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, shall be greatly honored.
9. The Citizens of Winnipeg, who supported the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, shall be greatly honored.

Winter Cities Showcase

1. Fifth International Winter Expo
(300 exhibitors from corporations and various organizations from 10 countries / 10,000 visitors)

Twenty-six corporations and twelve public organizations from Japan, mainly from Hokkaido, exhibited, marking the largest number Japanese exhibitors in its history.

2. Sixth Winter Cities Forum

Specialists and professionals of various fields gathered from around the world, and lectures were delivered on various winter city-related issues such as leisure, recreation/entertainment, long durable housing, remote areas, environmental protection, telecommunication, transportation and sports. Very active exchange of opinions followed the talks.

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

1. Le Festival du Voyageur
2. Performing Arts Showcase - Northern Lights, A Galaxy of Stars
3. NHL Ice Hockey Game
4. Home Visit Program

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

20 cities of nine countries	
Austria:	Innsbruck
Canada:	Edmonton, Winnipeg, Yellowknife
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Denmark (Greenland):	Nuuk
Iceland:	Reykjavik
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa
Norway:	Tromsø
Sweden:	Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm
U.S.A.:	Anchorage
As of January 1, 1997	

Eighth Conference, Harbin

Host city: Harbin, China
(Mayor: Cao Guangliang)

Site: Friendship Palace Hotel

Term: January 15-18, 1998

Participants: 49 cities from 10 countries:
Edmonton, Happy Valley-Goose Bay,
Prince George, St. Albert, Winnipeg
(Canada)
Beijing, Changchun, Dalian, Daqing,
Harbin, Heihe, Hohhot, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi,
Manzhouli, Mudanjiang, Qingdao, Qiqihar,
Shenyang, Urumchi, Xi'an, Yakeshi,
Yichun, (China)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Arhus (Denmark)
Kemi, Oulu (Finland)
Aomori, Asahikawa, Niigata, Sapporo,
Takikawa (Japan)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Nordkapp, Tromsø (Norway)
Chita, Dudinka, Inta, Khabarovsk,
Levozeko, Murmansk, Norilsk, Strezhevoy,
Vladivostok (Russia)
Kiruna, Luleå (Sweden)
Anchorage, Minneapolis (U.S.A.)

Main theme:

Let Us Unite to Create a Winter World
Kaleidoscope!

Themes and reporters

1. "What Winter Means to Senior Citizens and Children"
Speakers: Cities of Winnipeg, Luleå and Harbin
2. "Develop and Exploit Winter Tourism Resources"
Speakers: Cities of Anchorage, Shenyang, Tromsø and Sapporo
3. "Promoting the Culture of Ice and Snow"
Speakers: Cities of Aomori and Kiruna

New Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo (re-elected)

Vice-Presidents:

Mayor of Shenyang

Mayor of Edmonton

Mayor of Tromsø (re-elected)

Standing Directors:

Mayor of Harbin

Mayor of Luleå (newly elected)

Mayor of Kiruna (newly elected)

Non-Standing Director:

Mayor of Stockholm

Auditor:

Mayor of Anchorage (newly elected)

Reports

1. WinterNet Subcommittee by Edmonton
The WinterNet Subcommittee reported that they had finally finished their role as technical know how provider. At the meeting, the mayors approved a motion that the Association Secretariat (Sapporo) take over the responsibility for information exchanges among member cities through the Internet if no other city would take over the role of the WinterNet Subcommittee Secretariat.
2. Waste Recycling Subcommittee by Luleå
3. Economic Expansion Subcommittee by Tromsø
4. Winter Recreation and Tourism Subcommittee by Anchorage

Selection of the Host city of the 2002 Conference of Mayors and Showcase

Aomori, Japan was chosen as the host city of the tenth Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors and the Winter Cities Showcase for 2002. Aomori was the only city to step forward for the 2002 candidacy and was unanimously granted the right to host by member cities and representatives of the International Winter Cities Conference (IWCC).

Resolutions

1. To merge the secretariats of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC) and of the International Winter Cities Committee (IWCC). Details of the merger will be discussed by the two secretariats.
2. IAMNC will promote contact and information exchange with the United Nations and other international organizations.
3. Our appreciation is extended to the City

of Edmonton for its leading role in the development of WinterNet. Member cities should actively utilize the research results posted on the WinterNet.

4. The tenth International Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors will be hosted by the City of Aomori of Japan in 2002.
5. Our thanks is expressed to the citizens of Harbin for their support in hosting this conference.
6. Our thanks to Mayor Cao Guangling and Deputy Mayor Yue Yuquan of the city of Harbin, the People's Republic of China. At the same time to pay a tribute to Harbin People's Municipal Government for preparing this Conference.
7. To pay tribute to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of the People's Republic of China for issuing postcards to over 20 countries in commemoration of the Conference.

Winter Cities Showcase

1. Sixth International Winter Expo
(91 booths from 8 countries / 15,000 visitors)
Winter items, snow removal equipment and technology, winter building materials and energy-saving technology were exhibited. Exhibitors included 16 companies and 10 organizations from Hokkaido.
2. Seventh Winter Cities Forum
Specialists from various countries gathered to discuss architecture and materials, food culture and storage of food, use of ice and snow resources, public health, and environmental problems and sustainable development.

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

1. Activities on ice, winter swimming in the Songhua River and snow sculpture exhibition on Sun Island
2. Ice Lantern Festival and the International Ice Sculpture Competition
3. Exhibition of Chinese postage stamps commemorating the Mayors Conference
4. Concert commemorating the Mayors Conference

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

21 cities of nine countries

Austria:	Innsbruck
Canada:	Edmonton, Winnipeg, Yellowknife, Prince George
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Denmark (Greenland):	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Sweden:	Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of January 18, 1998

Ninth Conference, Luleå & Kiruna

Host city: Luleå, Sweden
(Mayor: Ulla Ölvbro)
Kiruna, Sweden
(Mayor: Lars Tornman)
Site: Arcus Hall, Luleå, Sweden
Congress Center, Kiruna, Sweden
Term: February 12-16, 2000

Participants: 26 cities from 10 countries
Zenica (Bosnia)
Prince George (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, Shenyang (China)
Nuuk (Denmark)
Kemi, Oulu (Finland)
Aomori, Sapporo (Japan)
Taebaek (Korea)
Toronsø, Bardu, Målselv (Norway)
Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm, Älvsbyn, Boden, Haparanda, Pajala, Piteå (Sweden)
Anchorage, Minneapolis (U.S.A.)

Main theme:
Sustainable development in winter cities

Sessions

1. "Countermeasures against natural disasters, support networks among IAMNC members during natural disasters"
Speaker: City of Harbin
* It is resolved, after exchanging opinions among mayors, to establish a subcommittee to continue research and to place a secretariat in Sapporo.
2. "Snow removal and civil cooperation"
Speaker: City of Prince George and Nuuk
* It is resolved, after exchanging opinions among mayors, to establish a subcommittee to continue research and to place a secretariat in Prince George.

Board of Directors

President:
Mayor of Sapporo
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Tromsø
Mayor of Shenyang (re-elected)
Mayor of Prince George (newly elected)

Standing Directors:
Mayor of Luleå

Mayor of Kiruna
Mayor of Aomori (newly elected)
Non-standing Directors:
Mayor of Stockholm (re-elected)
Auditor:
Mayor of Anchorage (newly elected)

Reports

1. Recycling Subcommittee by Luleå
 2. Winter Recreation and Tourism Subcommittee by Anchorage
 3. Economic Expansion Subcommittee by Tromsø
- * Subcommittee secretariat cities made final reports of their research and studies.

Selection of the Host City of the 2004 Conference of Mayors and Showcase

Of candidate cities Anchorage, U.S.A, and Changchun, China, Anchorage was chosen by Board Meeting officials as the host city of the 11th Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, 2004, and the Winter Cities Showcase 2004.

Resolutions

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 Secretariat of the subcommittee for Countermeasures Against Natural Disasters to be newly assumed by the City of Sapporo. The role of Secretariat of the subcommittee for Snow Removal and Civil Co-operation to be 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.
3. Winter City-related information/ homepages of member cities to be linked with 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.
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 Ölvebro, Mayor of Luleå, and Mr. Lars Tornman, Mayor of Kiruna, who hosted the 9th Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, and the citizens of Luleå and Kiruna, who supported its conference, shall be greatly honored.

Winter Cities Showcase

1. Winter Expo 2000
 - a. Luleå (venue: Arcus Hall)

Visitors: Approximately 8,500

Exhibitors: 185 booths from seven countries

Focus of exhibition: snow melting technology, environment/recycling, public works/building construction techniques under extreme weather, etc.

* 25 businesses and 13 organizations participated from Hokkaido and Aomori, Japan
 - b. Kiruna (venue: Congress Center)

Visitors: Approximately 5,000

Exhibitors: 20 groups from 13 countries

* Forum-related items by European countries were mainly displayed.
2. Winter Cities Forum 2000
 - a. Luleå

Attendants: Approximately 1,800

* Specialists made presentation about energy, environment and building construction technology and opinions were exchanged between presenter and audience.
 - b. Kiruna

Attendants: Approximately 800

* Specialists made presentation about winter transportation and space research and opinions were exchanged between presenter and audience.

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

22 cities of 10 countries

Canada:	Prince George, Winnipeg, Yellowknife
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Denmark (Greenland):	Nuuk
Estonia:	Maardu
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa
Korea:	Taebaek
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Sweden:	Kiruna, Luleå, Stockholm
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of February 16, 2000

Tenth Conference, Aomori

Host city: Aomori, Japan

(Mayor: Seizo Sasaki)

Site: Hotel Aomori, Kaisenkaku
Aomori City Cultural Hall

Term: February 7-10, 2002

Participants: 28 cities from 13 countries

Prince George, Sault Ste. Marie, (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi,
Qiqihar, Shenyang (China)
Maardu (Estonia)
Kemi (Finland)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Tehran (Iran)
Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa, Hakodate,
Chitose, Yokote (Japan)
Taebaek, Pyongtaek (Korea)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Tromsø (Norway)
Khabarovsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (Russia)
Kiruna, Luleå (Sweden)
Anchorage (U.S.A.)

Main theme:

Fostering Vibrant Northern Living: Environment, Culture, and Lifestyle

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo (reelected)

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Shenyang

Mayor of Prince George

Mayor of Tromsø (reelected)

Standing Directors:

Mayor of Aomori

Mayor of Anchorage (newly elected)

Non-Standing Director:

Mayor of Kiruna (newly elected)

Auditor:

Mayor of Ulaanbaatar (newly elected)

Changes in member cities

Withdrawals:

Winnipeg (Canada), Yellowknife (Canada), Stockholm (Sweden)

Revitalization of the IAMNC

The following three points were decided regarding the revitalization of the IAMNC:

1. Revitalize the IAMNC based on the following three pillars:
 - Structural revitalization

- Revitalization of existing projects
- Creation of new projects

2. Discuss details of the revitalization plan at a Working-Level Meeting, and hold the first meeting within the year 2002.
3. Hold "Cooperative Tourism Promotion" within the year 2002 as the pilot project of the revitalization plan.

Establishment of Subcommittees

Anchorage proposed the establishment of a subcommittee to investigate measures against terrorism in northern cities, and it was decided that the Secretariat for the subcommittee would be based in Anchorage and coordinate activities.

Mayors Conference

Main theme:

"Sustainable Winter Cities 21"

1. Opening Session

- Keynote speech:

Theme: "Implementing Sustainable Futures in Cities"- Lessons from Policy and Practice -

Lecturer: Professor Colin Fudge, Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean, Faculty of the Built Environment, University of the West of England

- Presenting cities and themes

Jiamusi: "Environmental Protection with Sustainable Development of Jiamusi City"

Kiruna: "Kiruna-ideas on how to develop the ideal winter city"

Anchorage: "E-Government"

Aomori: "Compact Cities"

2. Sectional Sessions

- (1) Sectional Session A: "Revitalization of Central Urban Area"

- Participating cities

Changchun, Harbin, Jilin (China), Taebaek (Korea), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), Prince George (Canada), Tromsø (Norway), Anchorage (USA), Kemi (Finland), Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Khabarovsk (Russia), Yokote, Aomori (Japan)

- Presenting cities and themes

Changchun: "Revitalization of the Central Urban Arena in developing city"

Tromsø: "Urban City Development in Tromsø"

Jilin: "Measures of Revitalization of Cen-

tral Urban Area"

*Conceptual discussions from many points of view were held about what kind of urban strategies for which winter cities should aim and central urban areas that follow this strategy.

(2) Sectional Session B: "Urban System with the Less Negative Impacts on Environment"

- Participating cities
Jiamusi, Qiqihar (China), Maardu (Estonia), Kiruna, Luleå (Sweden), Nuuk (Greenland), Anchorage (USA), Sapporo, Takikawa (Japan)
- Presenting cities and themes
Sapporo: "Sapporo Basic Environmental Plan," "Practical Cases of Efficient Use in Sapporo" - District heat service utilities and cooling projects in urban area -
Takikawa: "Practical Cases of Efficient Use in Takikawa" - Methane gas generation -

*Cities traded introductions about their own situations and discussed what kind of city system planning winter cities should take up in order to reduce the burden on the environment.

3. Plenary Session

- While holding comprehensive discussions based on the reports from Sectional Sessions A and B with the aim of realizing "Sustainable City Planning," a Joint Statement was proposed aiming toward the theme of the conference "Sustainable Winter Cities 21"
- Aomori proposed the establishment of a subcommittee to investigate effective measures for sustainable city planning, and it was decided that the Secretariat for the subcommittee would be based in Aomori and coordinate activities.

4. Round-up Forum

Information was mutually exchanged about the discussions at the Mayors Conference and Winter Cities Forum. The Aomori Conference was overall wrapped-up, and the Joint Statement proposed at the Plenary Session.

Reports

Secretariats from the subcommittees gave their interim reports.

1. Subcommittee for Countermeasures

Against Natural Disasters

Reported by the City of Sapporo

2. Subcommittee for Snow Management

Reported by Prince George

Selection of the host city for the 12th IAMNC Conference

As sole candidate city, Changchun, China was chosen by Board Meeting officials to be the host city for the 12th IAMNC Conference in 2006.

Resolutions

1. In the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities, member cities will cooperate with each other and make the greatest efforts possible to realize "winter cities that ensure sustainable development" based upon the "Joint Statement" declared at this Mayors Conference.
2. Basic policies of IAMNC revitalization to be reviewed for further development of the Association, and the revitalization issue is to be continuously discussed with administrative officials in attendance at the Working-Level Meeting.
3. Collaborative tourism promotion by member cities to be implemented in FY 2002 as a pilot project of the IAMNC revitalization plans.
4. Subcommittee designed to research effective policies for creating winter cities that ensure sustainable development will be established to study specific measures. The role of its Secretariat is to be assumed by the City of Aomori.
5. Subcommittee designed to research effective measures against terrorism in northern cities will be established. The role of its Secretariat is to be assumed by the City of Anchorage.
6. The 12th Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors 2006 will be hosted by the City of Changchun.
7. Mr. Seizo Sasaki, Mayor of Aomori who hosted the 10th Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, and the citizens of Aomori who supported its conference shall be greatly honored.

Joint Statement

We, the member cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities, will cooperate with each other and make the greatest efforts possible in order to realize "winter cities that ensure sustainable development" while reaffirming our fundamental principle of "Winter is a Resource and Asset" and revitalizing our activities. We also call for all people of northern regions to take on the challenge of construction of cities that ensure sustainable development.

February 2002

International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

Winter Cities Showcase

1. 8th International Winter Expo
 - Main theme: Northern Lifestyle and the Industry and Life of Winter Cities
 - Exhibitors: 72 business and groups from 7 countries 339 people
 - Participants: 14,069
 - Business discussions: 2,232
 - Exhibitors' fields: environment, housing, snow and ice, welfare, information, etc.
2. 9th Winter Cities Forum
 - Main theme: "Seeking Sustainability"
 - Registrants: 59 cities from 11 countries 182 people
 - Participants: 3,499
- (1) Opening forum
 - Theme: "Coexistence Between the Earth and Humanity: Examining Lifestyles of the 21st Century"
 - Lecturer: Mr. MOHRI Mamoru, Director of National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation/Astronaut
- (2) City Planning & Lifestyle Forum and Citizens Forum
 - *Eight City Planning & Lifestyle forums were held based on the key words of "energy," "community design," "lifestyle," and "traffic."
 - *Two Citizens Forums were held with the themes of "Possibility of YUKIGUNI-GAKU" and "KE-YA-GU: Ideal Relationship for Promotion of Gender-equal Society."
- (3) Health Promotion Forum
 - A keynote speech and panel discussions

were held with the theme "Health for All Winter Cities."

- Keynote speech
 - Theme: "Healthy City: New City Policy for Enhancing the Human Well-being"
 - Lecturer: Professor Ilona Kickbusch, Yale University School of Medicine, USA
- Panel Discussion
 - Discussions were held between the Mayor of Copenhagen, Mayor of Aomori, representatives from citizen groups, and Mayors Conference participants.

Events held in conjunction with the Conference

1. Winter Cities Art Exhibition
 - Sat., Jan. 26 – Sun., Feb. 10
2. Winter Cities Photograph Display
 - Sat., Jan. 26 – Sun., Feb. 10
3. AOMORI Winter Festival 2002
 - Sat., Feb. 9 – Mon., Feb. 11
4. National Elementary School Snow Ball Fight Tournament
 - Sun., Feb.10

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

19 cities of 10 countries

Canada:	Prince George
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu
Greenland:	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo, Takikawa
Korea:	Taebaek
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Sweden:	Kiruna, Luleå
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of February 10, 2002

Eleventh Conference, Anchorage

Host city: Anchorage, U.S.A.

(Mayor: Mark Begich)

Site: Anchorage Hilton
Egan Civic & Convention Center
Sullivan Arena

Term: February 18-22, 2004

Participants: 27 cities from 11 countries
Prince George, Calgary, Fort Nelson,
Leduc, Prince Rupert, Sault Ste. Marie,
Yellowknife (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar,
Shenyang (China)
Maardu (Estonia)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Aomori, Sapporo, Chitose (Japan)
Taebaek (Korea)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Tromsø (Norway)
Magadan (Russia)
Kiruna (Sweden)
Anchorage, Barrow, Elim, Juneau,
Metlakatla (U.S.A.)

Main theme:

Challenging Winter Frontiers

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Shenyang (re-elected)

Mayor of Prince George (re-elected)

Mayor of Tromsø

Directors:

Mayor of Anchorage

Mayor of Changchun (newly-elected)

Mayor of Kiruna

Auditor:

Mayor of Ulaanbaatar

Changes in member cities

New membership:

Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (Russia)

Withdrawals:

Takikawa (Japan), Luleå (Sweden)

Revitalization of the IAMNC

The following three points were decided regarding the revitalization of the IAMNC:

1. In order to share knowledge and experiences regarding the creation of "livable winter cities" with as many cities as possible that are challenged by winter-related

issues, the target membership area will be expanded and the name of the association will be changed to the "World Winter Cities Association for Mayors."

2. Based on the revitalization plan approved at the conference, member cities will collaboratively promote the revitalization of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, as well as strengthen the network among sustainable winter cities, and make an utmost effort to expand the membership. Some of the measures for this plan are to:

[Revitalization Plan]

- Implement collaborative projects
- Promote city-to-city exchange individually
- Expand the theme area to include issues challenging smaller communities
- Strengthen the link with the United Nations while making good use of the characteristics of winter cities with regards to the fields of education, culture, environment, etc.

3. Member cities will make full effort to promote new membership recruitment.

Mayors Conference

1. Opening Session

- Keynote speech:

Lecturer: Martin Buser

Four Time Iditarod Race Champion

2. Mayors Session

- Winter City Designs: Satellite Town Centers

The City of Anchorage made a presentation on the Creekside Town Center which the City of Anchorage has been planning to build. The presentation was followed by a discussion of city planning among the participants.

- The Role of the Sports Community in the Development of Municipal Services and Venues

The City of Anchorage made a presentation on the role of the sports community, on which theme the participants later discussed among each other.

3. Plenary Session

The Anchorage Conference was concluded, and items of conference resolutions were discussed.

Reports

Secretariats from the subcommittees gave their reports.

1. Final Report

- Subcommittee for Countermeasures against Natural Disasters

Reported by the Sapporo Fire Bureau

- Subcommittee for Snow Management

Reported by the City of Prince George

2. Interim Report

- Subcommittee for Sustainable Winter Cities Planning

Reported by the City of Aomori

- Subcommittee for Measures against Terrorism in Northern Cities

Reported by the City of Anchorage

Selection of the host city for the 13th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

Of candidate cities Nuuk, Greenland and Qiqihar, China, Nuuk was selected by the Board of Directors as the host city for the 13th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors 2008.

Resolutions

1. In order to share knowledge and experiences regarding the creation of “livable winter cities” with as many cities as possible that are challenged by winter-related issues, the target membership area will be expanded and the name of the association will be changed to the “World Winter Cities Association for Mayors.”
2. Based on the revitalization plan approved at the conference, member cities will collaboratively promote the revitalization of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, as well as strengthen the network among sustainable winter cities, and make an utmost effort to expand the membership. Some of the measures for this plan are to:
 - (1) Implement collaborative projects
 - (2) Promote city-to-city exchange individually
 - (3) Expand the theme area to include issues challenging smaller communities
 - (4) Strengthen the link with the United Nations while making good use of

the characteristics of winter cities with regards to the fields of education, culture, environment, etc.

- (5) Strengthen the link with citizens, indigenous people, private organizations and the business community.

3. Member cities will make full use of the information attained through the discussions of the sessions held under the following titles: “Role of the Sports Community in the Development of Venues” and “Winter Cities Designs: Satellite Town Center.”

4. The Subcommittees for Countermeasures against Natural Disasters and Snow Management completed their four-year research and study and presented their final report. Member cities are encouraged to make an utmost effort to utilize the outcomes of both subcommittees’ research. The Subcommittees for Measures against Terrorism in Northern Cities and for Sustainable Winter Cities presented their interim reports. They will continue their work in order to present their final reports at the 12th Mayors Conference in Changchun.

5. The 13th World Winter Cities Conference for mayors 2008 shall be hosted by the City of Nuuk, Greenland.

6. Mr. Nobuo Katsura, former Mayor of Sapporo, who contributed to the development of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities, shall be honored and granted honorary membership will be granted.

7. Mr. Mark Begich, Mayor of Anchorage, who hosted the 11th Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, and the citizens of Anchorage who supported the conference shall be greatly honored.

Winter Expo

1. Pac Com 2004

- Exhibitors: 127 businesses and organizations from 5 countries
- Fields of exhibition: construction, mining and manufacturing, housing, etc.

2. International Marketplace

- Exhibitors: 69 businesses and organizations from 5 countries

• Fields of exhibition: culture, crafts, arts, etc.

Winter Cities Forum

Thematical fields: 11

"Social & Cultural," "Energy & Environment," "Construction Techniques," "Economic & Planning," "Health & Medicine," "Security & Safety," "Snow Removal," "Cold Weather Engineering," "Rural Outreach & Urban Growth," and "Cold Weather Effects on Studded Tires."

Presenters: 53 presenters from 20 cities from 7 countries

Member Cities of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities

18 cities of 11 countries	
Canada:	Prince George
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu
Greenland:	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo
Korea:	Taebaek
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Russia:	Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
Sweden:	Kiruna
U.S.A.:	Anchorage
As of Feb. 22, 2004	

Twelfth Conference, Changchun

Host city: Changchun, China
(Mayor: Yejing Zhu)
Site: Changchun Shangri-La Hotel
Changchun EuroAsia Shopping Mall
Term: January 15-18, 2006
Participants: 29 cities from 13 countries
Leduc, Prince George (Canada)
Baiyin, Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin,
Jixi, Kunming, Mianyang, Qiqihar, Shen-
yang, Siping, Tianjin, Tonghua, Urumchi
(China)
Maardu (Estonia)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Aomori, Sapporo, Sendai (Japan)
Taebaek (Korea)
Kaunas (Lithuania)
Tromsø (Norway)
Magadan (Russia)
Novisad (Serbia-Montenegro)
Zilina (Slovakia)
Kalmar (Sweden)
Anchorage (U.S.A.)

Main theme:
Grow in Winter

Board of Directors

President:
Mayor of Sapporo (re-elected)
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Shenyang
Mayor of Anchorage (newly-elected)
Mayor of Tromsø (re-elected)
Directors:
Mayor of Changchun
Mayor of Nuuk (newly-elected)
Auditor:
Mayor of Prince George (newly-elected)

Changes in member cities

New membership:
Novosibirsk (Russia), Kaunas (Lithuania)
Withdrawals:
Kiruna (Sweden)

Mayors Conference

Themes: "Environmental Issues in Winter" and "Problem Solving in Citizens' Winter Lifestyles"

1. Keynote Report by the city of Changchun
A report on the current situation of the city of Changchun was made by the mayor and city officials of Changchun and mentioned that Changchun is facing rapid growth and several difficult urban

issues, such as environmental pollution, energy conservation, urban transportation, and measures to increase urban greenery, while also noting their desire to learn from advanced examples through the Mayors Conference.

2. Case Reports Presented by Participating Cities

① Environmental Issues in Winter

Case reports showing great results in reducing carbon dioxide emissions through the usage of wooden pellets and woody biomass were presented by the cities of Prince George and Kalmar on the topic of "environment issues in winter."

In addition, the cities of Prince George and Sapporo introduced regional heating/cooling methods as examples of environmentally-friendly heating systems. Furthermore, the city of Maardu described its environmental protection plan, including measures for energy conservation, etc.

② Problem Solving in Citizens' Winter Lifestyles

On the topic of "problem solving in citizens' winter lifestyles," the city of Aomori introduced wintertime vegetable cultivation systems for northern regions ("kanjime cultivation") and the use of such industrial waste items as scallop shells and apple lees to create calcium acetate, a low-pollution snow melting agent. The city of Taebaek introduced initiatives aiming at the creation of winter resorts as a plan for the conversion of industries in coal mining areas.

3. Plenary Session

Following general remarks by the Mayor of Changchun and Mayors of participating cities, proposals for the establishment of the "Subcommittee in order to Research Case Examples of Environmental Issues in Winter Cities" (Secretariat: Sapporo), Changchun Declaration, and Conference Resolutions were unanimously acknowledged.

Changchun Declaration

Environmental issues such as global warming are serious issues that all cities have to urgently deal with no matter where they are located.

In winter cities, with their low temperatures, heavy snowfalls, and harsh climatic conditions, the consumption of energy used for heating and for snow removal and melting is enormous, and with rapid urbanization excessive energy consumption has been adversely affecting the global environment year after year.

Acknowledging that urban activities with reduced energy consumption and with less impact on the environment are important for dealing with environmental issues, we, the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, hereby declare that each city will deal with these issues with its utmost wisdom and effort.

The Association also declares that the ideals of the declaration should be promoted to as many winter cities of the world as possible, and that the Association will make its utmost effort to spread these ideals through education and information.

Subcommittee Reports

Final reports were made by the Secretariats of the two subcommittees.

- Subcommittee for Sustainable Winter Cities Planning
(Secretariat: City of Aomori)
- Subcommittee for Measures against Terrorism in Northern Cities
(Secretariat: City of Anchorage)

Selection of the host city for the 14th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

Of candidate cities Prince George, Canada and Qiqihar, China, Prince George was selected by Board Meeting officials as the host city for the 14th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors 2010.

Resolutions

1. In accordance with the "Changchun Declaration" adopted at this Mayors Conference, participant cities from the Conference pledged to make their utmost efforts for the resolution of global environmental

problems, and to share information and experiences.

2. The "Subcommittee in order to Research Case Examples of Environmental Issues in Winter Cities" was established, with the city of Sapporo acting as Secretariat.
3. For services rendered for the growth and development of the WWCAM, former mayor of Ulaanbaatar Miyegombo Enkhbold was awarded honorary membership.
4. For services rendered for the growth and development of the WWCAM, mayor of Taebaek Hong Soon Il will be awarded honorary membership as of June, 2006.
5. The city of Prince George, Canada, was selected as the host city for the 14th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors, to be held in 2010.
6. The host of this Conference, Mayor Yejing Zhu, and the citizens of Changchun who supported the administration of the Mayors Conference were praised for their efforts.

Winter Expo

1. Dates: January 15-16, 2006
2. Venue: Changchun Euro Asia Shopping Mall
3. Exhibitors: 200 businesses and organizations from 7 countries

Winter Cities Forum

1. Dates: January 15-17, 2006
2. Venue: Changchun Shangri-La Hotel
3. Speakers: 28 speakers from 18 cities in 6 countries

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

19 cities from 11 countries

Canada:	Prince George
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jixi, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu
Greenland:	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo
Korea:	Taebaek
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Russia:	Novosibirsk Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of March, 2006

Thirteenth Conference, Nuuk

Host city: Nuuk, Greenland
(Mayor: Nikolaj Heinrich)
Site: Katuaq Cultural Center
Term: January 18-20, 2008
Participants: 22 cities from 8 countries
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, Shenyang, (China)
Nuuk, Aasiaat, Ittoqqortoormiit, Ivittuut, Nanortalik, Paamiut, Qaqortoq, Sisimiut, Upernavik, Uummannaq (Greenland)
Sapporo (Japan)
Taebaek (Korea)
Kaunas (Lithuania)
Tromsø, Hammersfest (Norway)
Anchorage (U.S.A.)
Aalborg (Denmark)

Main theme:
Climatic Changes in the Arctic

Board of Directors
President:
Mayor of Sapporo
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Changchun (newly-elected)
Mayor of Anchorage
Mayor of Tromsø
Directors:
Mayor of Prince George (newly-elected)
Mayor of Nuuk
Auditor:
Mayor of Prince George

Changes in member cities
New membership:
Magadan (Russia)

Mayors Conference
Themes: "Climatic Changes in the Arctic"

1. Global environmental issues intrinsically involving the youth population
The city of Tromsø (Norway) introduced participants the Nordic Youth Film Festival (NUFF)—the theme for the 2007 hosting of which was climate change—and explained that the creation of short films related to global warming allowed youth to gain an increased awareness of the problem. Tromsø officials emphasized the importance of involving youth in such movements in every way possible, a stance further highlighted the following day when it was revealed that "in Tromsø, there is a system in place that allows students to make policy recommendations and have discourses with the city government."

The city of Anchorage (United States) introduced participants to the Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) program, explaining how the program enabled youth participation in educational activities at school and energy conservation activities, thereby encouraging youth to search for solutions to environmental problems themselves.

Wrapping up the session, the Mayor of Nuuk—acting as Chairperson—made the statement, raising the question of whether and how the WWCAM should consider pursuing exchange and other youth-centered activities in the future.

2. Measures against global warming in winter cities
The city of Sapporo made a case study presentation. Measures discussed included the use of snow for cooling in Moerenuma Park and for producing cool water via the snow-melting tank located near Sapporo Station, the utilization of treated sewage to melt snow, and the composting of school lunch leftovers at Sapporo schools.

The city of Harbin, China, also made a case study presentation, during which it discussed the establishment of goals for reduced energy consumption (down 20% from 2005 numbers by 2010) and the importance of multi-lateral cooperation when dealing with global warming.

The city of Anchorage noted that "local governments are taking the initiative with regard to measures against global warming—currently, more than 700 U.S. mayors have pledged to reduce emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels." One example of the distinct measures taken by the city is the use of energy-efficient LEDs to replace street lights throughout the city.

3. Plenary Session
During the Plenary Session held on the 20th, the Secretariat submitted a measure for the establishment of a new subcommittee (City Operations for Mitigation of Climate Change), which was approved by participant cities. The intended period of activity is one year, and the city of Anchorage will act as the Subcommittee Secretariat.

As the closing of the Mayors Conference, the Nuuk Declaration proposed by the city of

Nuuk was unanimously approved and adopted during the Plenary Session held on the 20th, where it was signed by the Mayor of Nuuk and the Mayor of Sapporo (WWCAM President).

Nuuk Declaration

There is little dispute that global climate change is one of the most serious threats to the world's people. Scientists across the globe have documented that climate change is rapidly increasing, due largely to activities by industrialized society. According to the report published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in November of 2007, if the amount of greenhouse gases emitted globally continues to increase over the next 20 to 30 years, one can predict as a result that warming in the 21st century will occur on a scale greater than that which occurred during the 20th century.

Communities of the North, especially those in the Arctic and Greenland, find themselves on "ground zero" of the effects of global climate change. The increase in temperatures during the winter season is having a significant impact on the daily life and traditional cultures of people of the North. As members of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors and officials of the local governments created by and for these residents, we recognize our collective obligation to send a global message underscoring the severity of global warming.

Sharing the climatic characteristics of cold weather and heavy snowfall, winter cities consume a great deal of energy for winter heating, snow removal, and snow disposal. Given our contribution to increasing CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions, we winter cities must recognize the inconsistency evident as we ourselves contribute to global warming. We participant cities recognize the duty that winter cities have to take a leading role in global society. Therefore, we hereby pledge to utilize the collective wisdom of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors to make every effort to tackle the problem of global warming.

On the international level, considerations of a "post-Kyoto Protocol" framework for implementation starting in 2013 dominated discussions at the December 2007th session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP13), and the issues of climate change and the environment are planned as main themes for the 2008 G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit. In our position as local government bodies, we pledge to maintain an active awareness of movements on the national level and make every effort to realize the following objectives as we strive to take a leading role in global society:

1) Work towards establishing a Member City framework for global warming countermeasures (goals for reduced CO₂ and other greenhouse gas

emissions, etc.) based on the precedents set by advanced Member Cities.

2) Take the initiative as winter city governmental bodies to pursue measures for energy conservation and environmental conservation, and actively embrace our guiding role by urging and encouraging local residents in their actions and measures.

3) Lessen our reliance on fossil fuels by actively pursuing the use of such renewable energy sources as biomass and natural energy.

4) Work to expand the network of winter cities engaged in dealing with global environmental issues by having Member Cities share information regarding countermeasures for global warming with other cities in their region.

5) Monitor the advancements made with regard to the aforementioned points through the current Subcommittee on Winter Cities Environmental Issues and the Subcommittee planned for establishment based on the proposal made by the city of Anchorage.

Subcommittee Reports

An interim report was made by the Subcommittee on Winter City Environmental Issues (Secretariat: Sapporo) regarding the results of the survey of environmental issues in Member Cities, and it was noted that "awareness of the issue of global warming among Member Cities is unquestionably increasing, as witnessed by the citizen enlightenment programs being carried out."

Selection of the host city for the 15th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

As no cities stepped forward for candidacy in time for the Mayors Conference, the application period was extended. In October of 2008 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia volunteered to host and was granted the right after the written approval from the Board of Directors.

Resolutions

1. Based on the Nuuk Declaration, approved at the conference, member cities will make the utmost effort to solve global environmental issues and share information and experience with each other.
2. A subcommittee will be established to survey environmental conservation activities by municipalities to reduce climate changes, and the subcommittee's secretariat will be located in the city of Anchorage.
3. Honorary membership shall be granted to the late Agnethe Davidsen, former mayor of Nuuk, who contributed for many years to the development of the World Winter Cities As-

sociation for Mayors. We'd like to express our heartfelt condolences for her passing away.

4. We pay great tributes to the Honorable Nikolaj Heinrich, Mayor of Nuuk, who hosted the 13th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors, and the citizens of Nuuk who supported the conference.

Winter Expo

1. Dates: January 18-20, 2008
2. Venue: Inussivik Multi Purpose Hall
3. Exhibitors: 39 businesses and organizations from 6 countries

Winter Cities Forum

1. Dates: January 18-19, 2008
2. Venue: Katuaq Cultural Center
3. Speakers: 13 speakers from 5 countries

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

20 cities from 11 countries	
Canada:	Prince George
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jixi, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu
Greenland:	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo
Korea:	Taebaek
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Russia:	Novosibirsk Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Magadan
U.S.A.:	Anchorage
As of March, 2008	

Fourteenth Conference, Maardu

Host city: Maardu, Estonia
(Mayor: Georgy Bystrov)
Site: Swissôtel Tallin
Term: January 20 – 22, 2010
Participants: 18 cities from 11 countries
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, Shenyang, (China)
Maardu, Sindi (Estonia)
Nuuk (Greenland)
Sapporo (Japan)
Taebaek, Hwacheon (Korea)
Kaunas (Lithuania)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Tromsø, Longyearbyen, (Norwegian State Housing Bank) (Norway)
Anchorage (U.S.A.)
Jēkabpils (Latvia)
Iljitišovsk (Ukraine)

Main theme:

Features of Environmental Protection in Northern Cities

Board of Directors

President:
Mayor of Sapporo (re-elected)
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Shenyang (newly-elected)
Mayor of Anchorage (re-elected)
Mayor of Maardu (newly-elected)
Directors:
Mayor of Maardu (newly-elected)
Mayor of Ulaanbaatar (newly-elected)
Auditor:
Mayor of Taebaek (newly-elected)

Changes in member cities

New membership:
Hwacheon (Korea)
Withdrawal:
Prince George (Canada)

Mayors Conference

Theme: "Features of Environmental Protection in Northern Cities"

1. Environmental Protection

At the opening of the session, Mayor Georgy Bystrov of Maardu explained his aim in selecting this discussion theme by pointing out the importance of promoting environmental protection without hindering economic development. Dr. Jüri Martin reported current environmental conditions in Maardu and mentioned that more human resources specialising in the field of sustainable

development were needed and that this was a common challenge faced by countries across the world. In a guest presentation, Mr. Erik Teinemaa (Ministry of the Environment of Estonia) reported on the Estonian government's efforts to minimize the number of complaints from residents in the Muuga/Maardu area by introducing an air quality management system at the Muuga Harbor.

The City of Harbin reported that environmental issues had become more visible in the city with the progress of urban development, and that they aimed to become a nationally-recognized environmental protection model city during the country's 11th Five-Year Plan.

The Mayor of Sapporo reported on the city's approaches towards combating global warming, including examples of its vigorous efforts to introduce renewable energy sources (e.g., snow cryogenic energy, solar energy, woody biomass) and promote waste reduction and recycling. He also mentioned that Sapporo had been sending a message on the environment to the world through its initiatives such as the Sapporo 'Eco-Capital' Declaration or by hosting international events including the Children's World Summit. At the Sapporo International Short Film Festival and Market, the city now gives an environment award to an outstanding environment-related film.

The final presentation of the day was from Anchorage on their LED outdoor lighting initiative. The city has installed 4,000 LED streetlights, which accounts for one-quarter of their total, saving about \$350,000 per year.

2. Multicultural Society in Northern Cities/E-State

During the Mayors Conference Session 2 on the morning of January 22, case studies were presented on the topics of a multicultural society and the E-state in relation to sustainable development.

In the first half of the session focusing on a multicultural society, Ms. Anne-Ly Reimaa (Cultural Heritage Department of Estonia), who served as the facilitator

of the session, mentioned that cultural stability and a society in which people are allowed to be involved in politics are important elements for the development of a country, and that these elements are the basis of a variety of projects, including those in sustainable development.

In the second half of the session, focusing on the E-state, Mr. Margus Püüa (RISO, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Communications of Estonia) said that progress in computerization would help us prevent the waste of resources. He reported on the efficient functioning of the public sector using IT solutions (e.g., electronic voting) in Estonia. An Estonian *Let's Do It* cleaning campaign, in which volunteers have collected 10,000 tons of illegal dumping in forests, was also reported on. Volunteers had researched waste dumping sites and posted marked maps on the Internet, making such information available to the general public. The media and actors helped to recruit cleaning volunteers and in the end 50,000 people joined the event. Garbage dumped illegally was collected in just one day.

The City of Tromsø introduced its on-line services that they provide to residents. The city receives information of damages on roads or to street lightings from residents and makes such information publicly available on its website. Residents are able to find information on what is underneath of the ground within their property (e.g., water pipes) and garbage collection calendars for their resident areas by typing in their address at the city website.

3. Plenary Session

A plenary session was held to conclude the 14th Mayors Conference, and the establishment of a new subcommittee – the Environmental Protection Subcommittee – was approved. The new subcommittee will operate for four years and the subcommittee secretariat will be Changchun.

At the end of the session, the Maardu Declaration proposed by the City of Maardu was unanimously adopted and signed by the Mayor of Maardu and the Mayor of Sapporo (President of the WWCAM).

Maardu Declaration

Sustainable Development is now a phrase often heard worldwide. According to the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), it is defined as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Sustainable Development is closely related to our environment, our resources and social problems in our society.

The impact from global warming is most visible in winter cities. On the other hand, due to climatic features of cold weather and heavy snowfall, winter cities consume enormous amount of energy for heating and snow removal operations and increase the impact on the environment. With this self-contradiction in mind, the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors believes that winter cities should be the ones who take the initiative in approaching global warming within the international community.

How can we protect our precious Earth and leave it to future generations? At the national level, this international issue is being discussed. The 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP15) also put great emphasis on this. We, local governments as organizations which are closer to the people, must work hard on this urgent challenge. As we approach this issue, it is necessary to consider it ethically as well as technologically. Sustainable development means that resources are used reasonably and the carrying capacity of ecosystems is taken into account, thus ensuring improvement in the quality of life of us and our children. A sense of living in harmony as global citizens is important for the future of the Earth and the human race, and acceptance of and respect for other cultures are essential elements. The use of electronic media for providing information to the people increases citizen's awareness and the knowledge of public administration. A secure service space will be developed for citizens, allowing them to use public services and communicate in the same environment both with the state, businesses and other citizens. Electronic information can become a powerful tool for city development under conditions where natural and human resources are limited.

The World Winter Cities Association for Mayors takes full advantage of its network and continues to lead the world in tackling global warming in order to leave a better environment for future generations, through the valuable actions of the Subcommittee on Winter City Environmental Issues and the Subcommittee on City Operations for Mitigation of Climate Change and their proposals. With Sustainable Development as a key concept, we hereby pledge our continued vigorous involvement in developing our unique winter cities.

Subcommittee Reports

The City of Sapporo gave the final report on the activities over the past four years of the Subcommittee on Winter City Environmental Issues.

The City Anchorage reported on the activities of the Subcommittee on City Operation for Mitigation of Climate Change.

The city introduced their renewable energy initiative and announced that they will continue subcommittee activities for another two years.

Selection of the host city for the 16th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

As sole candidate city Hwacheon, Korea was approved the right to host by consideration from the Board of Directors.

Resolutions

1. In line with the Maardu Declaration, approved at the conference, member cities will vigorously involve in the development of unique winter cities with Sustainable Development as a key concept.
2. A subcommittee focusing on environmental protection approaches will be established, and the subcommittee's secretariat will be located in Changchun.
3. Hwacheon of Korea has been decided as the host of the 16th Mayors Conference in 2014.
4. Honorary membership has been granted to the Honorable Mark Begich (former Mayor of Anchorage), the Honorable Yejing Zhu (former Mayor of Changchun) and the Honorable Nikolaj Heinrich (former Mayor of Nuuk) who have made great contributions to the development of the WWCAM.
5. The WWCAM would like to pay great tribute to the Honorable Georgy Bystrov, the Mayor of Maardu, who hosted the 14th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors, and the citizens of Maardu who supported the conference.

Winter Expo and Winter Cities Forum

The event was not held.

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

20 cities from 10 countries	
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jilin, Jixi, Jiamusi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu
Greenland:	Nuuk
Japan:	Aomori, Sapporo
Korea:	Taebaek, Hwacheon
Lithuania	Kaunas
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Russia:	Novosibirsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Magadan
U.S.A.:	Anchorage
As of March 2010	

Fifteenth Conference, Ulaanbaatar

Host city: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
(Mayor: Gombosuren Munkhbayar)

Site: Ulaanbaatar Hotel

Term: January 13 – 15, 2012

Participants: 13 cities from 7 countries
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Qiqihar,
Shenyang (China)
Maardu, Viimsi (Estonia)
Sapporo (Japan)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Hwacheon, Taebaek (Korea)
Ulan-Ude (Russia)
Anchorage (U.S.A.)

Main theme:

Energy Supply and Efficient Consumption
of Heat Supply in Winter Cities

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Harbin (newly-elected)

Mayor of Anchorage

Mayor of Maardu

Directors:

Mayor of Ulaanbaatar

Mayor of Hwacheon (newly-elected)

Auditor:

Mayor of Taebaek

Changes in member cities

New membership:

Viimsi (Estonia)

Withdrawal:

Nuuk (Greenland)

Aomori (Japan)

Mayors Conference

Theme: "Energy Supply and Efficient
Consumption of Heat Supply in Winter
Cities"

Day 1

Under the theme of "Energy Supply and Efficient Consumption of Heat Supply in Winter Cities," the Mayors Conference session opened with a keynote speech by Mr. BAT Choimpong, the General Manager of the City of Ulaanbaatar. Mr. Bat explained that although the city has promoted the use of central heating systems, coal still accounts for 60% of total heat supply in the city. He discussed that efforts are needed to encourage the population living in traditional yurt (ger) districts to move in modern

accommodations to reduce coal consumption.

Session 1: Efficient Uses of Heat Supply

Ulaanbaatar reported severe air pollution in the city, which is attributed to its climatic and geographical features, and they discussed their plans to promote the installation of central heating systems and the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar power.

Hwacheon reported that they focus on the use of forest resources (e.g., wood pellets) among other local energy sources, including hydro, wind, solar and geothermal power. They have researched on household energy consumption and encouraged residents to use public transportation and bicycles. They have also provided residents with seven ways for energy saving in an effort to promote ecological lifestyles.

Session 2: Efficient Uses of Electricity

Ulaanbaatar reported that its severe winter climate increases the amount of power consumption and maintenance-related costs. They also discussed that it will require a larger power supply (five to eight times larger than the current level) in order to install electrical heating systems in the yurt districts, where air quality is most deteriorated, to mitigate the pollution.

Sapporo reported on its focus on the introduction of solar power and LED street lights, the use of wood biomass, cogeneration systems, and the effective utilization of cold energy from snow. The city also mentioned that they are discussing to replace nuclear power with renewable energy sources (e.g., solar power, etc.) and energy-saving efforts.

Day 2

The conference opened with a keynote speech by the Vice Mayor of Ulaanbaatar GANBOLD Davaadorj. He pointed out that air pollution has been accelerated by urban migration and that creation of better living environments for residents is an immediate need.

Session 3: Air Pollution in Winter Cities and Its Methods to Decrease Air Pollution

Ulaanbaatar explained issues they are facing and expressed their determination to reduce air pollution by 60% through various efforts, including the establishment of the Air Quality Agency, introduction of electric buses, establishment of biofuel plants, shift to renewable energy, establishment of co-generation power plants and provision of a low-interest loan to residents in the yurt districts for purchasing apartment rooms.

Maardu reported that air pollution is also a problem in their city and it is attributed to ashes and sulfur dioxide from the combustion of oil shale. Mineral refineries (a main industry in Maardu) and chemical plants have long been causes of soil, air and water pollution. The city has implemented air pollution monitoring in an effort of environmental conservation.

Shenyang reported that air pollution is also a significant problem as the result of industrial progress and the use of coal in winter. The following measures to mitigate air pollution have been taken: land readjustment with the aim of transforming the city into a city where economy and natural environments coexist in harmony; closure of plants which discharged large amounts of pollutants; strengthening of monitoring; and the establishment of an environmental protection law. Although they have seen effects from these measures, they said it is still an urgent issue (especially in winter) and requires continuous effort.

The City of Qiqihar reported that air quality in the city has been improved by the establishment of monitoring stations to observe diffusion of coal combustion, heat supply by energy recycling, monitoring of industrial pollution, motorcycle emission control, and other measures. The city expressed its intention to continue working on and strengthening the effort.

Plenary Session

The Plenary Session was held to conclude the 15th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors. In the session, the Ulaanbaatar Declaration and the Resolutions proposed by the City of Ulaanbaatar and the WWCAM Secretariat were adopted unanimously and the mayors of Ulaanbaatar and Sapporo signed the declaration.

Ulaanbaatar Declaration

Even now, many people are losing their lives and property and are forced to live under the severe circumstances caused by the extreme climate and natural disasters that strike many quarters of the globe. We have to keep the damage from such disasters minimal and build a safer and more secure society. The spirit of mutual assistance as well as courage and wisdom to face difficulties are the forces that move us forward.

The warm support during difficult times nurtures true friendship and peace. We, the member cities, hereby reaffirm our friendship and commitment to provide all the assistance that can be possibly given in various fields.

In addition, it is important that we strive to control the emission of greenhouse gases, which is one of the contributing factors to the current abnormal climate. The effective use of limited resources is imperative, and we are responsible to further develop the effective use of energy and heat from what we learned through this conference and actively educate the citizens so that each of them recognizes the importance of saving energy.

We, the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, hereby declare that we renew our awareness that making actions towards energy reduction and urban activities with a low impact on the environment are the key challenges for those who live in winter cities, and that each city will make maximum efforts to address the issues.

Subcommittee Reports

Anchorage gave a final report on its Subcommittee on City Operations for Mitigation of Global Climate Change. In the report, they outlined the following issues:

- a. Climate change is a common challenge among WWCAM member cities.
- b. Urban migration increases environmental impacts to cities.
- c. Local governments have taken measures against climate change and urban migration.
- d. Anchorage has focused on effective energy use and sharply cut power consumption through the use of renewable energy sources (wind power, etc.) as well as providing subsidy programs for home energy saving efforts.

Changchun gave a progress report on its Environmental Protection Subcommittee and shared the results from their research on impacts of snow-melting agents on the atmospheric environment. They suggested the use of environmentally-friendly snow removal methods, such as the use of carbon residue and rough sand to spread on the ground.

Selection of the host city for the 17th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors

Of candidate cities Viimsi, Estonia, and Sapporo, Japan, a vote by the Board of Directors granted Sapporo the right to host the 17th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors 2016.

Resolutions

1. In line with the Ulaanbaatar Declaration approved at the conference, each city shall make the utmost effort on the following items as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on their efforts at the next Mayors Conference.
 - 1) Efforts on the effective use of energy and heat
 - 2) Educational activities for the citizens on energy savings
2. Begin by filling out the member cities survey on tourism policies which was recently conducted; each member city shall continue to exchange information actively and apply them to the city development.
3. The 17th Mayors Conference in 2016 shall be hosted by the city of Sapporo.
4. The Honorable Gombosuren Munkhbayar, the Mayor of Ulaanbaatar, who hosted the 15th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors and the citizens of Ulaanbaatar who supported the conference shall be greatly honored.

Winter Expo

1. Dates: January 14 – 15, 2012
2. Venue: Business Development Center
3. Exhibitors: 33 businesses and organizations from 3 countries

Winter Cities Forum

The event was not held.

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

19 cities from nine countries

China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu, Viimsi
Japan:	Sapporo
Lithuania	Kaunas
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of February 2012

Sixteenth Conference, Hwacheon

Host city: Hwacheon, Republic of Korea

(Mayor: Jeong Gab-cheol)

Site: Seohwagsan Conference Hall

Term: January 16 – 18, 2014

Participants: 12 cities from 4 countries

Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, Qiqihar,
Shenyang (China)

Matsumoto, Sapporo (Japan)

Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek

(Republic of Korea)

Rovaniemi (Finland)

Main theme:

Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in a Winter City, and Sustainable Application Methods.

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo (re-elected)

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Harbin

Mayor of Anchorage (re-elected)

Directors:

Mayor of Hwacheon

Mayor of Sapporo (newly-elected)

Auditor:

Mayor of Inje (newly-elected)

*Currently seeking Vice President for the European region.

Changes in member cities

New membership:

Matsumoto (Japan)

Inje (Republic of Korea)

Withdrawal:

Kaunas (Lithuania)

Mayors Conference

Theme: "Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in a Winter City, and Sustainable Application Methods"

Day 1

Each city presented best practices and learned from each other on how to both conserve the natural environment while using it for revitalizing cities in terms of creating city charm and promoting the tourism industry.

Session A: Development of tourism and the promotion of tourism industry using natural resources

Sapporo: Projection mapping was dis-

played on one of the giant snow statues at the Snow Festival. In recognition of the event, Sapporo was appointed to the UNESCO Creative Cities Network in the category of Media Arts in November 2013.

Hwacheon: The Sancheoneo Ice Festival, first held in 2003, has become one of the prominent Korean festivals. Part of the festival entry fee is returned to visitors in the form of a gift certificate that can be used at Hwacheon shops, contributing to the local economy.

Changchun: The Changchun Snow and Ice Festival has been held for 17 years since it was inaugurated in January 1998. The festival has contributed to the revitalization of local tourism.

Harbin: The Harbin International Ice and Snow Festival is held every January. Winter in Harbin is harsh, but the climate becomes resort-like in summer. East meet West here, offering visitors many cultural experiences.

Jixi: Bordering the Russia Primorsky Territory, Jixi's goal is to develop China-Russia border tourism. The city also plays a role in the promotion of Chinese calligraphy, which has made the city historically important.

Qiqihar: Since Qiqihar is noted as a homeland of the crane, ecological tourism featuring these birds is prominent. Local enclaves of ethnic Koreans and Mongolians are popular with tourists.

Shenyang: Shenyang promotes its historical and cultural heritage and snow and winter activities, such as winter festivals, ski resorts, and hot spring spas.

Matsumoto: To attract visitors to Matsumoto in the winter season, the city is developing attractions, such as an eight-meter high "snow wall," with the hope to revitalize tourism here.

Session B: Enhancing winter cities through environmental protection

Jiamusi: To cope with rapidly progressing urbanization and industrialization, the city is urging the development of new environmentally clean industries. The city has been carrying out environment protection by setting air pollution control goals and enforcing water pollution control.

Inje: Inje has been carrying out environmental preservation using Effective Micro-organisms (EM) whose antioxidant activity is beneficial to human health. EM can purify sources of pollution economically.

Day 2

- Final Report on the Environmental Action Goals for Environmental Protection

At the Ulaanbaatar Mayors Conference in January 2012, in order to educate citizens on the effective conservation of energy and heat WWCAM member cities decided to set, as ambitious as possible, measurable conservation goals. The cities which agreed to set goals (Changchun, Jiamusi, Sapporo, Inje and Taebaek) reported the outcomes of their initiatives toward the accomplishment of their goals.

Mayors Discussion

Since it was founded as the Northern Inter-city Conference of Mayors, the WWCAM Mayors Conference has been characterized as an event where mayors can meet and candidly exchange opinions on common issues that challenge winter cities, providing opportunities for cities to learn from each other. For the Mayors Conference in Hwacheon, a Mayors Discussion Time was established specifically to discuss city planning challenges and solutions. The following are a few of the issues that were raised.

In Harbin and Shenyang, China, residents have been paying keener attention to the protection of the environment, which has deteriorated due to economic growth and urbanization. Improvement of transportation infrastructure, including public transportation systems and road networks is required to solve traffic congestion.

The county of Hwacheon with its Sancheoneo Ice Festival and Rovaniemi, Finland, with its Santa Claus home have both been making efforts to use local resources for tourism promotion.

Matsumoto, Japan, on the other hand, has been carrying out projects that have as a goal the health of residents under the slogan "Sustainable Healthy City."

The city of Inje has been working on a variety measures to revitalize traditional markets and the local economy.

Plenary Session

The 16th Mayors Conference concluded with a plenary session at which a Hwacheon Declaration and Resolution were proposed by Hwacheon and the WWCAM Secretariat and were adopted unanimously.

Mayor Jeong Gab-cheol of Hwacheon and Sapporo Mayor Ueda, president of the WWCAM, signed the document.

Hwacheon Declaration

In Hwacheon, the land surrounded by abundant natural beauty which gives birth to the pristine waters home to the mountain trout, we, the members of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, have reacknowledged that the realization of environmentally friendly cities is an important task for winter cities.

During the Anchorage Mayors Conference in 2004, we witnessed Arctic ice melting due to global warming. Since then the Mayors Conference has held discussions focusing on environmental issues, such as approaches to global warming, environmental protection and energy policies.

It has been exactly 10 years since we saw the melting ice sheets in Anchorage and acknowledged the need for immediate action against global warming. We, standing before the North Han River where people are enjoying Korea's largest winter festival, have advanced to a new stage in the quest to utilize natural blessings as resources to revitalize our cities without damaging the natural environment.

Recognizing that global warming has a strong impact on world winter cities and requires concerted solution finding efforts, WWCAM member cities have centered their endeavors on environmental issues, which are universal challenges demanding our continued efforts as we look towards the future.

While reaffirming that it is the role of winter cities to lead the international community in tackling environmental issues, we, the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, hereby declare that we will put forth our utmost efforts in addressing these issues and will continue working to advance discussions on global warming, energy policies as well as other environmental issues, sharing our discoveries with the world and instilling environmental awareness in the young generation which will lead future efforts.

Subcommittee Reports

A final report on the activities of the Environmental Protection Subcommittee was presented at the Mayors Conference by Changchun, China, which has been the subcommittee's secretariat since the subcommittee was established at the Maardu Conference in 2010.

Changchun has been involved in two projects since the subcommittee was formed:

analyses of sources of particulate matter in the air in winter season and an investigation of the negative impact of snow melting agents on the environment. Changchun has presented five reports since the Working-Level Officials Meeting was held in Ulaanbaatar in July 2010.

[Host city of 18th Mayors Conference]
Although the Secretariat put out a call for a host city for the 18th WWCAM Mayors Conference to be held in 2018, no member city bid for candidacy. Following the Hwacheon Mayors Conference, the Secretariat continues the call for a host city of the 18th WWCAM Mayors Conference.

Resolutions

1. In line with the Hwacheon Declaration approved at the conference, each city shall make the utmost effort on the following items as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on their efforts at the next Mayors Conference.
 - 1) Efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption.
 - 2) Efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution.
2. As an important tool in boosting the vigor and appeal of winter cities, the WWCAM shall not only serve as a platform for member cities to discuss city planning and learn from each other, but also scout out, collect and share information on the latest successful policies and measures from progressive non-member cities around the world in the hope that such data may be beneficial to the policy making of member cities.
3. Member cities, as winter cities sharing a cold and snowy climate, shall cooperate with one another while grappling city planning solutions and proactively share information on such WWCAM activities with the international community, strengthening the global presence of this Association.
4. Honorary membership has been grant-

ed to the Honorable Arild Hausberg (former Mayor of Tromsø), the Honorable Georgy Bystrov (former Mayor of Maardu) and the Honorable Gombosuren Munkhbayar (Former Mayor of Ulaanbaatar) who have made great contributions to the development of the WWCAM.

5. The Honorable Gab-cheol Jeong, the Mayor of Hwacheon, who hosted the 16th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors and the citizens of Hwacheon who supported the conference shall be greatly honored.

Winter Expo and Winter Cities Forum
The event was not held.

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

20 cities from eight countries	
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu, Viimsi
Japan:	Matsumoto, Sapporo
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
U.S.A.:	Anchorage
As of March 2014	

Seventeenth Conference, Sapporo

Host city: Sapporo, Japan
(Mayor: Katsuhiko Akimoto)

Site: Sapporo Convention Center

Term: July 27 – 30, 2016

Participants: 32 cities from 8 countries

Edmonton (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jixi, Qiqihar,
Shenyang (China)
Rovaniemi (Finland)
Matsumoto, Sapporo, Hirosaki, Kanegasaki,
Fukuoka, Rumoi, Tomakomai, Bibai,
Chitose, Takikawa, Eniwa, Niseko,
Kutchan, Tsukigata, Shimokawa (Japan)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
(Republic of Korea)
Novosibirsk, Gubkinsky, Purovsky Area,
Yamal-Nenets Autonomous District
(Russia)
Copenhagen (Denmark)

Main theme:

Winter City Urban Development: Uniqueness and its appeal

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Anchorage

Mayor of Hwacheon (newly-elected)

Mayor of Rovaniemi (newly-elected)

Directors:

Mayor of Sapporo

Mayor of Shenyang (newly-elected)

Auditor:

Mayor of Inje

Changes in member cities

New membership:

Rovaniemi (Finland)

Maardu (Estonia)

Edmonton (Canada)

Withdrawal:

Maardu (Estonia)

Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (Russia)

* Maardu withdrew in March 2014 and re-joined in June 2015.

Mayors Conference

Presentation of Case Studies by Member Cities

Theme 1:

"Urban development utilizing winter"

Sapporo: In terms of urban development, you can expect hosting the Winter Olympic Games and Paralympic to be effective in terms of both "hard" and "soft" results by updating urban infrastructure and facilities, promoting barrier-free development, and revitalizing the region. By bidding on the Games, Sapporo hopes to build up their status as world-class Winter Sports City while renewing the entire city.

Changchun: While striving to promote winter sports by holding international conferences, maintaining ski resorts is popular at the citizen level. Changchun plans to hold business meetings in accordance with ski festivals and the Winter Agricultural Expo to increase economic effects.

Edmonton: In 2012, Edmonton adopted a "Winter Cities Strategy". In order for citizens to enjoy the outdoors, the city works to improve public spaces and provides support to outdoor cafes so they can be enjoyed by locals even in the winter season.

Jiamusi: In order to promote new tourism resources, last year 200,000 tourists came to the Three Rivers International Snow-Sprinkling Festival, which was first held in 2003. Jiamusi also focused on attracting Russian tourists from the Far East.

Novosibirsk: Developed advanced concrete building technology which can be practiced even in harshly cold environments. In order to enjoy summer sports in the winter as well, Novosibirsk built an indoor football arena and a wooden roofed dome.

Jixi: Tourism in the winter has increased significantly and Jixi has been able to calculate tourism numbers throughout the year. The construction of large-scale plant factories which enabled the distribution of fruits and vegetables became a hot topic for discussion. Consideration was given to the environment in terms of development and air pollution was greatly reduced.

Hwacheon: In 2012, the Hwaheon winter

festival had the most visitors since it was started in 2003, focusing on the theme of “Sancheoneo” (type of mountain trout, aka Cherry Salmon). Harbin and Quebec have entered a winter festival agreement to hold a rotating symposium and are seeking further development.

Qiqihar: The cold climate, formerly a major setback to agriculture, is now a major resource in terms of tourism. Snow and ice tours have grown to account for half of all tourism-related revenue. Various sports events and other events citizens can participate in are being promoted and youth education programs are being built.

Rovaniemi: Having been known as being the home town of Santa Claus, Rovaniemi focuses on and enriches indoor and outdoor sports facilities and is increasingly being recognized as a destination for sports tourism.

Theme 2:

"Urban development that takes advantage of special climate features outside the winter season"

Inje: By using all kinds of natural energy, Inje aims to achieve 100% energy self-sufficiency in urban areas by 2045. Inje aims to make this happen through combined energy conservation efforts on the citizens' parts, government initiative, and corporate cooperation.

Theme 3:

"Eco-conscious sustainable urban development in winter cities"

Matsumoto: Matsumoto implemented a project to reduce food loss in 2010. This campaign encourages people to spend the first 30 minutes at a restaurant eating, and to return to their seats for the last 10 minutes to finish all remaining food on their plates. At home, the 30th of each month is a designated day for checking refrigerators for remaining food. At kindergartens, they teach the concept of “mottainai” (=too good to waste) by showing how leftovers are being handled.

Harbin: The city recommends that farmers living in water conservation areas not use pesticides and also compensated for economic losses in order to curb deforestation within the district. As a result of improving laws on water management, the regional ecosystem was restored and the water quality improved greatly.

Shenyang: Since 2011, Shenyang actively promoted environmentally conscious building construction, accounting for 33% of newly built buildings in 2015. The energy-saving rate of new residential areas also reached the standard of 65%. With constructing a water-saving city as one of their goals, Shenyang also is working on developing new technologies and products.

Sapporo: “New urban development” and “environmental energy measures” will be developed in downtown Sapporo, in accordance with the anticipation that aged buildings will soon need to be renovated. By promoting the construction of an energy network that efficiently supplies heat and electric power and remodeling buildings into “green buildings” to reduce environmental impact, Sapporo hopes to build a system that can continue to supply heat and electric power to drastically reduce carbonization and maintain stable urban functions even in emergency situations.

Final Reports on Environmental Action Goals

At the Hwacheon Mayors Conference in January 2014, it was decided that each member city would set feasible, numerical targets for reduction of energy consumption and efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution. The ten cities which set goals presented their reports.

Mayors Discussion

Since the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors was founded as the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, the Mayors Discussion was held to provide mayors with an opportunity to learn from each other by candidly exchanging opin-

ions on common issues. Focusing on the economic issues presented in each cities case studies, 11 cities (Hwacheon, Changchun, Jixi, Matsumoto, Inje, Rovaniemi, Edmonton, Shenyang, Harbin, Novosibirsk, and Ulaanbaatar) gave reports.

Presentation by Technical and Environmental Affairs Mayor of Copenhagen

Mr. Morten Kabell, Mayor of Technical and Environmental Affairs introduced some of the city's environmental and energy policies, such as the active use of wind power, biomass, and other types of clean energy. Copenhagen is well known as one of the world's leading cities in environmental energy sustainability.

Presentation by Mr. Kondo (UNDP Representation Office in Tokyo)

Mr. Kondo, of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Representation Office in Tokyo spoke about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were adopted by the United Nations last year, and on the theme of international cooperation among local governments for regional development.

Urban Development Recommendations (Sapporo Municipal High School Students)

Sapporo Kaisei High School 3rd-years made recommendations on the effectiveness of using theater for urban development.

Report on the Ulaanbaatar Fire Fighting Technologies Project

Presented as a case study of effectiveness of the WWCAM international network, member city Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, reported on their Firefighting Technical Support Project

Plenary Session

The general meeting was held to conclude the Mayors Conference, after which the Sapporo Declaration and WWCAM Resolutions were unanimously adopted once again.

Sapporo Declaration

Possessing a thirty-four year history, the World Winter Cities Association began here in Sapporo with the Northern

Intercity Conference of Mayors in 1982.

Facing the many challenges presented to cities of cold and snowy regions, we members of this Association have striven to advance winter city development through the sharing wisdom and experience among our many fellows, coming to solidify our bond.

While distinguished for the signature snow and coldness associated with their namesake, winter cities additionally possess charms lesser witnessed by other regions such as being favored by four distinct seasons and contrastively brilliant summers. Leveraging these features, it is our mission to create cities in which our citizens take joy in living.

Making full use of our World Winter Cities Association for Mayors network, we continue taking our winter city development to the next level by overcoming nationality and status to understand our cultural differences, connect and cooperate in the spirit of friendly competition.

Not limited to the resolution of issues faced narrowly within our own cities, we hereby affirm that our activities within this Association may also contribute to the resolution of environmental issues and other challenges global in nature – activities that are indispensable for shaping the future of this planet.

Moreover, it is our hope that this network of winter cities which has built up borderless relations of trust and cooperation over the course of its more than thirty years of continued activity may assist the resolution of multifarious international conflicts involving complex grapples of differing cultures and interests.

Given the above, we winter cities hereby declare our commitment to further deepen our allied efforts and aspire for our organization to be a leader to the world's cold and snowy cities, taking together another stride forward into the future here from the grounds of the very birthplace of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors.

Subcommittee Reports

The City of Rovaniemi, Finland, serving as the Secretariat for Arctic Design Subcommittee which was established in February 2015, held the Subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee, where member cities share successful stories and knowledge, used design as a problem solving method. Cities which participated in the subcommittee (Rovaniemi, Edmonton, Changchun, Harbin, Sapporo, Hwacheon, and Novosibirsk) completed a questionnaire in advance regarding their successes on this topic, the results of which were reported.

Host city of 19th Mayors Conference

As a result of a vote at the general meeting,

candidate city Rovaniemi, Finland was chosen as the host city for the 19th WWCAM Mayors Conference in 2020.

Resolutions

1. In line with the Sapporo Declaration approved at this conference, each city shall make their utmost efforts toward the following items as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on these efforts at the next Mayors Conference.

1) Efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption.

2) Efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution.

2. As a means of the new Revitalization Project approved at this Sapporo conference, we aim to increase WWCAM membership and further expand the intercity collaboration that takes place in the world's cold and snowy regions.

3. The host city of the 19th World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors in 2020 shall be Rovaniemi.

4. Honorary membership shall be granted to The Honorable Gab-cheol Jeong, Former Mayor of Hwacheon, for his contributions to the growth of WWCAM, as well as to the Honorable Fumio Ueda, Former Mayor of Sapporo

5. We commend the supportive efforts of the citizens of Sapporo in hosting this conference.

Winter Expo

2016 Winter Cities Showcase

1. Date: July 29–31, 2016

2. Venue: Sapporo Ekimae-dori Underground Walkway (Chi-Ka-Ho) Kita 3-jo intersection square (west)

3. Exhibitors: 12 cities/organizations from 5 countries

4. Business Meeting

A) Date: July 28, 2016

B) Venue: Sapporo Prince Hotel International Convention Center Pamir

C) Participating companies

① Environment related: 19 companies from 4 cities in 3 countries

② Tourism related: 9 compa-

nies/organizations from 4 cities in 3 countries

Winter Cities Forum

1. Date: July 30, 2016

2. Venue: Kyosai Hall

3. Content: Introduction of the WWCAM activities, Ulaanbaatar Firefighting Technical Support Project, United Nations (UN) activities introduction

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

21 cities from 10 countries

Canada:	Edmonton
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Maardu, Viimsi
Finland:	Rovaniemi
Japan:	Matsumoto, Sapporo
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Norway:	Tromsø
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk
U.S.A.:	Anchorage

As of October 2016

Eighteenth Conference, Shenyang

Host city: Shenyang, China
(Mayor: Jiang Youwei)
Site: New World Expo, Shangri-La Hotel
Term: September 12–13, 2019
Participants: 46 cities from 21 countries
Victoria (Australia)
Garadagh (Azerbaijan)
Minsk (Belarus)
Edmonton, Vancouver (Canada)
Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi,
Mudanjiang, Qiqihar, Shenyang (China)
Rovaniemi, Kemi, Jämsä (Finland)
Clermont-Ferrand, Guillaumes (France)
Bavaria, Bremen, Breisgau (Germany)
Matsumoto, Sapporo, Hakodate, Ku-
shiro (Japan)
Jūrmala (Latvia)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Rabat (Morocco)
Braga (Portugal)
Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek, Seoul, Incheon,
Daejeon, Chuncheon, Gunsan, Gongju,
Pyeongchang (Korea)
Norilsk (Russia)
Zrenjanin (Serbia)
Jinja (Uganda)
Andijan (Uzbekistan)
Belfast (U.K.)
Salt Lake City (U.S.A.)
Florida (Uruguay)

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

Board of Directors

President:
Mayor of Sapporo (re-elected)
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Edmonton (newly-elected)
Mayor of Hwacheon
Mayor of Rovaniemi
Directors:
Mayor of Rovaniemi
Mayor of Shenyang
Auditor:
Mayor of Harbin (newly-elected)

Changes in member cities

New membership:
Winnipeg (Canada)
Mudanjiang (China)
Norilsk (Russia)
Withdrawal:
Maardu (Estonia)
Tromsø (Norway)

Mayors Conference

1) Keynote Speech

○Presentations from each city

1 Member Cities

Shenyang: Comprehensive urban development including urban-rural imbalances, structural adjustments in industry world which is partial to heavy industry, and a progressively-aging population and welfare policies.

Sapporo: Introduction of 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.

2 Observer Cities

Rabat (Morocco): Efforts to shape Rabat into an environmentally friendly, sustainable city.

Minsk (Belarus): Urban development centering on winter sports.

Garadagh (Azerbaijan): Discussed the potential for Garadagh to blossom into a prominent industrial area as it possesses abundant tourism resources and natural resources.

Belfast (U.K.): Discussed their city planning vision for 2035

2) Presentation of case studies

○Presentations from each city

1 Member Cities

Rovaniemi: green energy initiatives using wood, peat, and hydropower as well as trends in amounts of electricity consumed.

Harbin: events which brighten up the winter season and where both domestic and international cultures coexist.

Edmonton: changes in behavioral trends of its residents due to the effects of the city's Winter City Strategy, which was entering its 5th year

Hwacheon: Discussed their Sancheoneo Ice

Festival, which attracts visitors from all over the world to their city of 27,000.

Matsumoto: Discussed efforts involving Matsumoto Castle, a national treasure, and aim to foster a healthy city in which its citizens have longer healthy life expectancy.

Norilsk: Introduced the contribution of Norilsk Nickel Corporation, which supports the local economy, and initiatives to enhance public facilities and services.

2 Observer Cities

Clermont-Ferrand (France): Home to the Michelin headquarters, discussed smart city policies.

Vancouver (Canada): Presented their action plan for becoming the greenest city.

Salt Lake City (U.S.A.): 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.

◦Mid-term Report on Environmental Action Goals

In January of 2018, at the Working-Level Officials Meeting in Sapporo 10 member cities presented their mid-term reports on the status of each city's efforts to carry out their Environmental Action Goals.

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.

【Subcommittee Report】

The Arctic Design Subcommittee, of which Rovaniemi, Finland, is the secretariat, has announced that its long-time leader, Tarija Outila, has retired from the City Hall to further her research and move to the University of Oulu, and that it will suspend its activities until her successor takes up her position.

【About the 20th Conference Host】

The secretariat called for cities to host the 20th World Winter Cities Association for Mayors Conference, scheduled to be held in 2022, but there were no member cities that announced their candidacy.

After the Shenyang Mayors Conference, we will continue to recruit candidates for the host city of the 20th Mayors Conference.

Shenyang Declaration

We, representatives from 46 cities and 21 countries, gathered 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!

Resolutions

- 1 Each city shall make their utmost efforts toward the following items as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on these efforts at the next Mayors Conference.
 - 1) Efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption.
 - 2) Efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution.
- 2 We will actively disseminate information to the international community about our unique activities, in which winter cities around the world that share the same climatic conditions, such as the cold and snowy climate, work together to solve city development issues, and aim to increase the number of member cities as well as enhance our presence.
- 3 We will take advantage of the exchange effect of the Mayors' Conference to expand the contents of concurrent events and to expand

the number of cities participating as observers, thereby expanding the diversity of the Mayors' Conference and increasing the stock of knowledge, and making it more meaningful for academic and industrial fields to participate.

4 We commend the efforts of Jiang Youwei, Mayor of Shenyang, as well as the Citizens of Shenyang for their efforts and support in hosting this conference.

Supplementary Events

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

On September 12, 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, 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 gathered together in the Shengjing Grand Theater, and opera house in Shenyang, for this Shenyang International Friendship Gala Evening event. Traditional Chinese music, acrobatics, and performances from youth musicians of songs and music from various countries. In addition, 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.

Winter Cities Forum

The event was not held.

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

22 Cities from nine countries	
Canada:	Edmonton, Winnipeg
China:	Changchun, Harbin, Jiamusi, Jilin, Jixi, Mudanjiang, Qiqihar, Shenyang
Estonia:	Viimsi
Finland:	Rovaniemi
Japan:	Matsumoto, Sapporo
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk, Norilsk
U.S.A.	Anchorage
As of August 2018	

Nineteenth Conference, Rovaniemi

Host city: Rovaniemi, Finland

(Mayor: Ulla-Kirsikka Vainio)

Site: Virtual Conference

Term: November 5, 15, and 16, 2021

Participants: 21 cities from 7 countries
Edmonton (Canada)

Changchun, Daqing, Harbin, Jiamusi,
Jilin, Qiqihar, Shenyang (China)

Rovaniemi (Finland)

Hakodate, Kagoshima, Kitahiroshima,
Kitakyushu, Matsumoto, Sapporo (Ja-
pan)

Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)

Chuncheon, Hwacheon (Korea)

Khabarovsk, Norilsk, Novosibirsk (Rus-
sia)

Main Theme:

Aging Society in Winter Cities and Cold
Climate

Sub Themes:

1. Challenges and Solutions to Social
Marginalization
2. Elderly Empowerment
3. Infrastructure and Architecture for
All

Working Group Discussion Topic:

Tourism Development in Winter Cities

Board of Directors

President:

Mayor of Sapporo

Vice Presidents:

Mayor of Edmonton

Mayor of Hwacheon (re-elected)

Mayor of Rovaniemi (re-elected)

Directors:

Mayor of Norilsk (newly-elected)

Mayor of Rovaniemi

Auditor:

Mayor of Harbin

Changes in member cities

New membership:

Daqing (China)

Withdrawal:

Matsumoto (Japan)

Mayors Conference

1) Working Group Discussion

Discussion Topic: Tourism Development
in Winter Cities

○Presentations from each city

Norilsk: The Arctic tourism cluster created to
develop tourism industry on the Taimyr Pen-
insula, winter tourism featuring natural loca-
tions, and a digital tourist platform offered in
multiple languages.

Edmonton: Edmonton's strategy for trans-
forming into a world-leading winter city, cre-
ating winter tourism experiences, and mar-
keting campaigns to increase tourists to the
city.

Rovaniemi: The COVID-19 impact on the
tourism and the future of the tourism in
Rovaniemi.

Sapporo: Joint educational projects related to
tourism between Hokkaido University and
universities in the northern region.

Shenyang: Ice and snow sports in the city, the
Shenyang International Ice and Snow Festival,
and tourism resources including the World
Cultural Heritage sites.

Ulaanbaatar: Development, challenges, and
improvements for winter tourism utilizing the
city's traditional culture.

2) Group Session 1

Sub-theme: Infrastructure and Architecture
for All

○Presentations from each city

Rovaniemi: The circular economy to realize
architecture and infrastructure for everyone
and measures to address seasonal challenges.

Ulaanbaatar: Air pollution, traffic congestion
and other challenges due to population
growth, and a polycentric city system to
evenly distribute the population.

Hwacheon: Building infrastructure to con-
tinually hold the city's winter festival in a
global warming climate.

Norilsk: Large-scale investment in so-
cio-economic development and urban rena-
vation projects of the city.

3) Group Session 2

Sub-theme: Challenges and Solutions to Social Marginalization, Elderly Empowerment

○Presentations from each city

Rovaniemi: How the Senior Citizen Council acts as an advocate of senior citizens in Rovaniemi and its roles and activities.

Sapporo: Aging population of Sapporo, Japanese social security system, and the city's support for the elderly to participate in society.

Shenyang: Creating policies and other systems that enable the elderly to play an active role in society, expanding more channels and PR activities to encourage social participation by the elderly.

[Subcommittee Report]

The Arctic Design Subcommittee was formed in February, 2015 to learn from each other about the best practices and know-how of member cities in applying design as a method to solve problems. The City of Rovaniemi, the Arctic Design Subcommittee Secretariat, presented the final report on their activities.

Rovaniemi Declaration

World Winter Cities Association for Mayors has been an active network of more than twenty cities from the northern areas. The work of the WWCAM has been going on for 40 years.

During the past decades, all the participating cities have seen the huge change the world has gone through both in good and in bad. Globalization has brought all of us closer together and enhanced logistical connections have improved the flow of goods and visitors to every corner of the globe. On the other hand, global warming has accelerated into a climate crisis and new fresh ideas, as well as concrete actions, are now needed to secure our future. Despite the challenges, winter cities look to the future with confidence.

The Covid-19 pandemic has ruled the world and greatly influenced human interaction for the past two years. We have learned to communicate virtually. However, virtual communication is not a substitute for face-to-face meetings. Hopefully, this WWCAM first virtual conference and general assembly will also be the last of its kind and we are able to meet face-to-face in the future.

The theme of the 19th WWCAM is Aging Society in Winter Cities and Cold Climate. The theme of the conference was decided before the pandemic, but pandemic has highlighted even more the loneliness and isolation of people, especially the elderly. Infrastructure, architecture, and urban planning are challenging in every city. However, in winter cities these challenges are of a particular nature due to climatic factors and winter conditions.

Recognizing these challenges, winter cities hereby declare the commitment to strengthening cooperation, looking for solutions to slow down climate change, improving urban planning, and taking more into account the needs of an aging population. We will work together in the spirit of partnership, with mutual respect and seeking the way to common success.

[Resolutions]

1. Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, WWCAM member cities were successfully able to exchange their opinions and efforts by making the best use of the online format. What made this possible is truly the strong bonds we have nurtured over the years. We hereby reaffirm our solidarity to move forward to resuming face-to-face exchanges in the future
2. We will enhance the contents of the Mayors Conference and make efforts for the mayors of the WWCAM member cities to continue their active discussions. As a means to achieve this, we will fully utilize the newly-introduced Group Session format.
3. We aim to continue our efforts to increase our members and strengthen the global presence of this Association by holding discussions on extensive topics that would benefit working-level officials, private sectors, and academic researchers. As a means to achieve this, we will fully utilize the newly-introduced Working Group format.
4. Each city shall make their utmost efforts toward the following items as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on these efforts at the next Mayors Conference.
 - 1) Efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption.

- 2) Efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution.
5. We commend the Honorable Ulla-Kirsikka Vainio, Mayor of Rovaniemi, and the citizens of Rovaniemi for their support in holding this conference.

[Items covered in writing]

○Final Report on Environmental Action Goals

At the 2016 Sapporo Mayors Conference, it was resolved that each WWCAM member city would make their utmost efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption, as well as their efforts to preserve the environment such as tackling air pollution. Based on this resolution, the member cities reported their environmental initiatives.

○About the 21st Mayors Conference Host

The Secretariat put out a call for the host city for the 21st Mayors Conference. However, no candidates came forward. The Secretariat will continue the call for candidates for the 21st Mayors Conference even after the conclusion of the Rovaniemi Mayors Conference

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Estonia:	Viimsi
Finland:	Rovaniemi
Japan:	Sapporo
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk, Norilsk
U.S.A.	Anchorage
As of November 2021	

Twentieth Conference, Sapporo

Host city: Sapporo, Japan
(Mayor: Katsuhiko Akimoto)
Site: Sapporo Convention Center
Term: December 17 – 21, 2024
Participants: 21 cities and organizations
from 8 countries
Changchun, Beijing <ArchiCity>(China)
Rovaniemi, Tampere (Finland)
Enghien-les-Bains (France)
Sapporo, Fukuoka, Hokkaido University
(Japan)
Almaty (Kazakhstan)
Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek, CityNet Secretariat
(Republic of Korea)
Stockholm <Baseload Power>(Sweden)
Online Participants: 6 cities and organizations
from 2 countries

Main Theme:

New Possibilities for Winter Cities – Realizing a Sustainable Society –

Board of Directors

President:
Mayor of Sapporo
Vice Presidents:
Mayor of Edmonton (re-elected)
Mayor of Hwacheon
Mayor of Rovaniemi
Directors:
Mayor of Sapporo
Mayor of Norilsk
Auditor:
Mayor of Harbin

Changes in member cities
None

Mayors Conference

Group Session ①

Sub-theme:

"Urban Development for Winter Cities"

Sapporo: Initiatives to Promote a Walkable City in Winter

Tampere: Winter Walkable City with Digital Twins. People-Driven.

Hwacheon: GX (Green Transformation) in Winter City—The Four seasons coexist in harmony—"Economic Activities in Hwacheon"

Inje: Strategic Winter Development in Inje County for Climate Resilience

Sub-theme:

"Environmental Policies for Winter Cities"

Sapporo: Decarbonization Initiatives for Sapporo's Future

Ulaanbaatar: Environmental Issues of Ulaanbaatar

Midterm Reports on Environmental Action Goals

At the Rovaniemi Mayors Conference in November 2021, it was decided that each member city would set realistic, numerical goals for "efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption" and "efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution."

The five cities presented midterm reports on their progress toward the action goals.

Group Session ②

Sub-theme:

"Tourism Policies for Winter Cities"

Rovaniemi: Rovaniemi as a Year-Round Tourist Destination

Taebaek: Taebaek's Winter Tourism

Working Group Discussion ①

Topic:

"Culture & Arts that Make the Most of Winter"

Changchun: Development of Winter Tourism in Changchun

Enghien-les-Bains: City Networks and Culture as Drivers for Achieving a Sustainable Society

Sapporo: Sapporo International Art Festival

Working Group Discussion ②

Topic:

"Energy in Winter Cities"

Sapporo (Hokkaido University): Academic Cooperation through Intercity Collaboration between Sapporo and Ulaanbaatar

Stockholm (Baseload Power): Key Opportunities and Challenges for the Geothermal Industry

Lecture on Special Theme

Special Theme:

"GX (Green Transformation) in Winter Cities"

(1) Remarks by the Mayor of Sapporo

(2) Introduction to Sapporo City's Initiatives: Working Towards a Future as Japan's

Green Powerhouse & Green Financial Hub
(3) Royal Danish Embassy in Japan: GX in Denmark
(4) Hokkaido University: GX (Green Transformation) Initiatives at Hokkaido University

Presentations from CityNet and Almaty

(1) CityNet: Introduction to CityNet
(2) Almaty: Almaty – Environmental Challenges

Presentations on City-to-City Collaboration: Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure Development in Ulaanbaatar's Cold Climate

Presentation by Hokkaido University Students: Inclusive Winter: Enhancing Safety and Accessibility for Vulnerable Groups

Plenary Session

The plenary session was held to conclude the Mayors Conference, after which the Sapporo Declaration and WWCAM Resolutions were unanimously adopted once again.

Sapporo Declaration

Under the slogan "Winter is a Resource and an Asset," the City of Sapporo established the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors in 1981 and held the first Mayors Conference in the following year.

During the early days of the Mayors Conference, a series of discussions revolving around "issues encountered in winter living" were held with the aim of achieving livable winters for the inhabitants of cold, snowy regions.

Entering the 2000s, as the world shifted its attention to "global environmental issues", we have had discussions on this topic and have been communicating winter cities' environmental protection efforts to the international community.

Since 2016, the theme of "Urban Development inspired by Winter Cities" has provided a new direction for future Mayors Conferences.

The theme of this Mayors Conference is "New Possibilities for Winter Cities – Realizing a Sustainable Society –". As we work toward a sustainable society, I hope you used this opportunity to present the efforts of your city, to further discuss what new possibilities are available to winter cities, and to share with the world the attractive advancements in city development specific to winter cities.

We also had a special theme, "GX (Green Transformation) in Winter Cities," which provided an opportunity to share related advanced topics and discuss energy challenges common to winter cities.

Fostering utilization of renewable energy is a common challenge among winter cities that tend to be visibly affected by climate change. We recognize that our activities contribute to solving global issues such as environment problems through decarbonization initiatives, and we commit to continue to put in maximum effort.

Here in Sapporo, the birth place of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors, we hereby declare that as winter cities we will further deepen our collaboration and work to realize a sustainable society in the future; through doing so, we aim to make the WWCAM the leading organization for cold and snowy cities.

Resolutions

1. That we were able to overcome the impact of COVID-19 and resume in-person attendance and exchange is thanks to the strong bonds that the Mayors Conferences have nurtured over the years, and we hereby reaffirm our solidarity at this Mayors Conference.

2. In line with the Sapporo Declaration approved at this conference, each city shall make their utmost efforts toward the following items, as well as decide on realistic numeric goals, and report on these efforts at the next Mayors Conference.

1) Efforts to convert to renewable energy sources and reduce energy consumption.

2) Efforts relating to environmental preservation, such as tackling air pollution.

3. In order to enhance the benefits of sharing winter city know-how and mutual learning, we aim to boost the activities of the Mayors Conference and thereby increase its value as an international network by having presentations and discussions on a wide range of themes delivered by various groups, including not only governments, but businesses and academic researchers as well.

4. Honorary membership shall be granted to the Honorable Choi Moon-soon, Mayor of Hwacheon, for his contributions to the growth of the WWCAM.

5. We commend the supportive efforts of the citizens of Sapporo in hosting this conference.

Related Events

1. Winter Cities Showcase

(1) Date: December 19–21, 2024

(2) Venue: Sapporo Ekimae-dori Under-

ground Walkway (Chi-Ka-Ho),
Ikoi-no-Kukan [W]

2. Exhibition by the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM) in collaboration with Sapporo International Art Festival (SIAF): Transforming Sapporo's Winter! 10 Years of SIAF

- (1) Date: December 16–19, 2024
- (2) Venue: Sapporo Community Plaza 1F, SCARTS Malls A & B

3. Business Networking Event

- (1) Date: December 18, 2024
- (2) Venue: Sapporo Convention Center, Meeting Rooms 107 & 108
- (3) No. of participants: 75 from 44 organizations

4. Winter Cities Forum

- (1) Date: December 21, 2024
- (2) Venue: Kyosai Hall
- (3) Content: A lecture by Sakana-kun, an honorary doctor and visiting professor at Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, on global environmental issues and more

Member Cities of the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors

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Estonia:	Viimsi
Finland:	Rovaniemi
Japan:	Sapporo
Mongolia:	Ulaanbaatar
Republic of Korea:	Hwacheon, Inje, Taebaek
Russia:	Magadan, Novosibirsk, Norilsk
U.S.A.	Anchorage
As of December, 2024	

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Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1. Title

This international organization shall be called the World Winter Cities Association for Mayors (WWCAM), hereinafter referred to as the "Association."

Article 2. Status

1. The Association shall be an international nonprofit organization registered in accordance with the laws of the country in which the Secretariat is located.
2. The Association shall have the power to enter into contracts and execute legal actions in accordance with the laws of the country in which the Secretariat is located.

Article 3. Objectives

The objectives of the Association are:

- (1) to contribute to the development of functional, efficient winter cities by bringing together representatives of cities that have significant snow accumulation and experience severe cold, and by encouraging and facilitating the sharing of knowledge and information concerning mutual urban problems associated with winter;
- (2) to promote the "Winter Cities Movement" under the slogan "Winter is a Resource and Asset";
- (3) to strengthen cooperation and solidarity among winter cities and to contribute to peace and international cooperation.

Article 4. Definition of Winter Cities

Winter cities are defined as those meeting either of the following criteria:

- (1) cities having an annual snow accumulation of more than 20cm every year
- (2) cities having an average temperature of 0°C (32°F) or below during the coldest month.

Article 5. Activities

1. As the means to attain the aforementioned objectives in Article 3, the Association shall:
 - (1) hold the World Winter Cities Conference for Mayors (hereinafter referred to as the "Mayors Conference");

- (2) hold the Winter Cities Forum (hereinafter referred to as the "Forum") and the Winter Expo (hereinafter referred to as the "Expo");
 - (3) administer subcommittees;
 - (4) issue a newsletter and other publications;
 - (5) undertake revitalization projects;
 - (6) undertake other necessary activities to attain the objectives of the Association.
2. The Forum and Expo, as stipulated in Article 5-1, shall, in principle, be held in conjunction with the Mayors Conference. This rule, however, does not apply if the host city of the Mayors Conference does not wish to organize them.

Chapter II. Membership

Article 6. Membership

The members of the Association shall be the cities which are approved for membership by the Board of Directors in accordance with Article 8, from among those winter cities defined in Article 4. Representatives of the members shall be mayors. In the absence of the mayor, a proxy representing the mayor shall assume the responsibilities of the representative of the member.

Article 7. Honorary Member

1. The Association shall grant Honorary Membership to an individual who has made a special contribution to the development of the Association or to the winter cities movement.
2. Honorary Members shall be nominated by the General Assembly.
3. The Honorary Members shall be informed of all the activities of the Association and invited to the General Assembly and Mayors Conference. When Honorary Members attend the Mayors Conference, payment of the registration fee shall be waived
4. Honorary Members shall not have the privileges of speaking and voting at the General Assembly.

Article 8. Membership Procedure

1. Mayor of a city wishing to become a member of the Association shall apply to the President for membership.
2. After receipt of the membership application, the President shall make a decision regarding the application in consultation

with the Board of Directors.

3. Membership shall be granted by a majority vote of the Officials present at a meeting of the Board of Directors.
4. The Board of Directors shall inform the General Assembly whether a membership application has been accepted or not.
5. Any city whose membership application is not accepted by the Board of Directors shall have the right to appeal at the General Assembly. In this case, final decision shall be made at the General Assembly meeting in which the city protests.
6. Membership shall become effective on the date it is approved by the Board of Directors or decided by the General Assembly.

Article 9. Withdrawal

1. Any member may withdraw its membership by submitting to the President a notification of withdrawal and settling any outstanding financial obligations.
2. The President shall report the withdrawal to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly upon receipt of its notification.

Article 10. Dismissal

1. When dismissal is resolved at the General Assembly meeting, a member may be dismissed from the Association.
2. No member may be dismissed without being notified of the reason for dismissal, without the opportunity to appeal against the dismissal, and without being heard by the Board of Directors.
3. Resolutions regarding dismissal must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly.

Chapter III. Organization

Article 11. Organization

1. The Association shall be administered by:
 - (1) the General Assembly,
 - (2) the Board of Directors,
 - (3) the Working-Level Officials Meeting,
 - (4) the Secretariat,
 - (5) other organizations necessary for the administration of the Association.
2. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Charter, only Members shall be able to take positions in the organizations stipulated in the previous clause and other organizations approved by the General Assembly and the

Board of Directors.

Chapter IV. Officials

Article 12. Officials

The Association shall have:

- (1) one President
- (2) three Vice-Presidents
- (3) two Directors
- (4) one Auditor

Article 13. President

1. The President shall be elected from among the Members by a majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly.
2. The term of the President shall be four years, commencing with the General Assembly meeting at which the President is elected and ending four years later at the General Assembly meeting at which the new President is elected.
3. The President shall be eligible for reelection.
4. The President shall represent the Association.
5. The President shall be responsible for overseeing the general affairs of the Association.

Article 14. Vice-Presidents

1. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected from among the Members by a majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly, as follows:
 - (1) one from the North and South American regions
 - (2) one from the Asian and Oceanic regions
 - (3) one from the European region
2. The term of the Vice-President shall be four years, commencing with the General Assembly meeting at which the Vice-President is elected and ending four years later at the General Assembly meeting at which the new Vice-President is elected.
3. The Vice-Presidents are eligible for reelection.
4. The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President and shall conduct business in the absence of the President due to any unforeseen circumstances.
5. The Vice-President shall oversee the region he or she represents.

Article 15. Directors

1. Directors shall be the mayors of the host city of the forthcoming Mayors Conference and

the most recent Mayors Conference. The four-year directorship coincides with the General Assembly meeting two years prior to and the meeting two years after the Mayors Conference.

2. Directors shall cooperate with each other in preparing for a forthcoming Mayors Conference and work together for successful administration of the Mayors Conference.

Article 16. Auditor

1. The Auditor shall be elected from among the Members by a majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly.
2. The term of the Auditor shall be four years, commencing with the General Assembly meeting at which the Auditor is elected and ending four years later at the General Assembly meeting at which the new Auditor is elected. However, the Auditor shall be eligible for reelection for an additional two years until the following General Assembly.
3. The Auditor shall supervise the property and accounts of the Association.
4. The Auditor shall submit audit reports to the Board of Directors and General Assembly. The Auditor may submit written audit reports instead of attending the Board of Directors meeting.

Article 17. Remainder of the Term

Should any member of the Board of Directors be unable to complete his or her term of office, the President shall request that the new mayor of the city he or she is representing assume the position on the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term. Should the new mayor decline to accept the position, a member shall be nominated by the President from among the members to assume the position for the remainder of the term.

Chapter V. General Assembly

Article 18. General Assembly

1. The General Assembly shall be convened by the President every two years in conjunction with the Mayors Conference.
2. An extraordinary General Assembly may be convened by the President. If time does not permit holding an extraordinary meeting, written correspondence may be used to communicate among the

membership.

Article 19. Composition

1. The General Assembly shall be composed of Members of the Association, as defined in Article 6.
2. In principle, the General Assembly meeting shall not be open to the public.
3. Even if the representative of the member or his or her proxy stipulated in Article 24-1 are unable to attend the General Assembly meeting, the said member city personnel may attend as observers. In this case, the said Member shall not be regarded present at the General Assembly and shall not have the right to speak or vote.

Article 20. Powers

The General Assembly shall have the powers to:

- (1) revise and repeal the Charter,
- (2) elect the Officials,
- (3) approve the budgets of the Association,
- (4) ratify contracts and settlements of accounts approved by the Board of Directors,
- (5) approve revision of the membership fee,
- (6) select the host city of the Mayors Conference,
- (7) approve resolutions made at the Working-Level Officials Meeting,
- (8) other matters related to general administration of the Association.

Article 21. Chairperson

The President shall chair the General Assembly.

Article 22. Quorum

The quorum for the General Assembly shall be a majority consisted of the members attending the meeting and those submitting a proxy.

Article 23. Decisions

1. Decisions of the General Assembly shall be made by a majority vote of the Members present, unless stipulated otherwise in the Charter. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.
2. Voting at the General Assembly shall be made by a show of hands, unless requested otherwise by at least twenty percent of the Members present who are qualified to vote.

Article 24. Voting by Proxy

1. Any mayor unable to attend the General Assembly for reasons beyond his or her control may entrust a proxy who is qualified to act as the mayor's representative to vote at the General Assembly. In this case, the mayor shall give a written notice of proxy representation to the President prior to the General Assembly.
2. Regarding the provisions of Articles 22 and 23, the said mayor shall be regarded present at the General Assembly when he or she sends a proxy.

Article 25. Administration

The President may decide any matters that are necessary for administration of the General Assembly, not otherwise stipulated in the Charter, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Chapter VI. Board of Directors

Article 26. Board of Directors

1. The President may convene the Board of Directors every two years as necessary in conjunction with the General Assembly.
2. An extraordinary meeting of the Board of Directors may be convened by the President. If time does not permit holding an extraordinary meeting, written correspondence may be used to communicate among the officials of the Board of Directors.

Article 27. Composition

1. The Board of Directors shall be composed of Officials as defined in Article 12.
2. In principle, the Board of Directors meeting shall not be open to the public.

Article 28. Powers

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for:

- (1) approving the membership applications and reporting them to the General Assembly,
- (2) taking necessary actions for important matters regarding administration of the Association.

Article 29. Chairperson

The Board of Directors shall be chaired by the President.

Article 30. Quorum

The quorum for the Board of Directors meeting shall be a majority consisted of Officials attending the meeting and those submitting a proxy.

Article 31. Decisions

The Board of Directors shall make decisions by a majority vote of the Officials present. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.

Article 32. Voting by Proxy

1. Any mayor unable to attend the Board of Directors meeting for reasons beyond his or her control may entrust a proxy who is qualified to act as the mayor's representative to vote at the meeting. In this case, the mayor shall give a written notice of proxy representation to the President prior to the meeting.
2. Regarding the provisions of Articles 30 and 31, the said mayor shall be regarded present at the Board of Directors meeting when he or she sends a proxy.

Article 33. Administration

The President may decide any matters that are necessary for administration of the Board of Directors, not otherwise stipulated in the Charter, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Chapter VII. Working-Level Officials Meeting

Article 34. Working-Level Officials Meeting

1. In principle, the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be convened by the President within a year prior to an upcoming Mayors Conference.
2. The Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be held in the city where the Secretariat is located under Article 42-1.
3. The member cities other than the city mentioned in the preceding clause shall not be precluded from holding the Working-Level Officials Meeting, if the president deems it necessary.

Article 35. Composition

1. The Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be composed of:
 - (1) the Secretary-General,
 - (2) senior administrators of the member cities
2. Other persons may attend as observers, when admitted by the President or the Board of Directors.

Article 36. Powers

The Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be responsible for:

- (1) revising the criteria and procedure for selecting the host city of the Mayors Conference,
- (2) discussing and approving a proposed plan for the forthcoming Mayors Conference, including basic information such as the schedule of the Mayors Conference, the site plan, the registration fee and list of people to invite,
- (3) discussing and deciding themes of the session(s) of the forthcoming Mayors Conference,
- (4) discussing and deciding revitalization project plans,
- (5) studying and researching issues decided upon at the Mayors Conference,
- (6) discussing ways to contribute to the smooth operation and successful execution of activities of the Association,
- (7) deciding the host city of the Working-Level Officials Meeting based on Article 34 Clause 3.

Article 37. Chairperson

1. The Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be chaired by the Secretary-General.
2. In the event that the Secretary-General is unable to chair the meeting, the President shall appoint the chairperson of the Working-Level Officials Meeting.

Article 38. Quorum

The quorum for the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be a majority consisted of the members attending the meeting and those submitting a proxy.

Article 39. Decisions

1. Decisions of the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be made by a majority vote of those members present at the meeting. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.
2. Voting at the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be made by a show of hands, unless otherwise requested by one or more members of the Working-Level Officials Meeting.

Article 40. Costs

1. The operational cost of the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be the responsibility of the host city.
2. In the event that the mayor of the host city of the Working-Level Officials Meeting applies in a written form before the date designated by the President, the President may grant a subsidy for the operation of the Working-Level Officials Meeting for two fiscal years with the upper limit specified in Appendix 2.
3. The mayor who receives the grant shall submit a statement of the accounts to the President before the date designated by the President.

Article 41. Report

The Secretary-General shall report the resolutions made at the Working-Level Officials Meeting to the General Assembly.

Chapter VIII. Secretariat

Article 42. Secretariat

1. The Secretariat shall be located in the City of Sapporo, Japan.
2. The Secretariat shall be administered by a Secretary-General and other staff members.
3. The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the President. The other staff members are appointed by the Secretary-General.

Article 43. Responsibilities

The Secretariat shall be responsible for:

- (1) enacting decisions made by the General Assembly and the Board of Directors, and at the Mayors Conference,
- (2) administering the meetings of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Working-Level

- Officials,
- (3) administering the bidding process for the host city of the Mayors Conference,
 - (4) drafting the budget of the Association,
 - (5) acting as liaison among member cities and organizations related to the Winter Cities Association and other groups,
 - (6) keeping accounts,
 - (7) executing other works necessary for administration of the Association, which are directed by the President.

Article 44. Costs

1. The President shall grant the amount stipulated in Appendix 2 to the Secretary-General to be used for the administration of the Secretariat each fiscal year.
2. The Secretary-General shall submit a statement of accounts related to the administration of the Secretariat to the President before the date designated by the President each fiscal year.

Chapter IX. Mayors Conference

Article 45. Mayors Conference

The Mayors Conference shall be convened under the joint auspices of the President and the mayor of the host city every two years in the city designated by the Board of Directors.

Article 46. Composition

1. The Mayors Conference shall be composed of Members, as defined in Article 6.
2. Representatives of nonmember cities may attend the Mayors Conference as observers.

Article 47. Chairperson

The mayor of the host city shall chair the Mayors Conference unless another person is appointed by the mayor of the host city.

Article 48. Decisions

1. The Members and the observers stipulated in Article 46-2 shall discuss the themes decided upon at the Working-Level Officials Meeting.
2. The President or the mayor of the host city may announce a joint declaration with the agreement of the Members and observers. Decision of agreement shall be made by a majority vote of the city representatives

present. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.

Article 49. Administration

1. The mayor of the host city of the Mayors Conference, and/or a designated representative, in consultation with the President, shall be responsible for the administration of the Mayors Conference.
2. The host city of the Mayors Conference shall submit a proposed plan of the Mayors Conference that has been made in consultation with the Secretariat to the Working-Level Officials Meeting as stipulated in Article 34, and receive an approval.
3. The host city shall submit a proposed plan of the themes to be discussed at the Mayors Conference to the Working-Level Officials Meeting for an approval. The host city shall make the plan after researching the requests of the members.

Article 50. Costs

1. Operational cost of the Mayors Conference shall be the responsibility of the host city.
2. The President shall grant the subsidy stipulated in Appendix 2 for administration of the Mayor Conference to the mayor of the host city for a period of two years.
3. The mayor of the host city shall submit a statement of the accounts related to the Mayors Conference to the President before the date designated by the President.

Article 51. Exemption of the Registration Fee and Accommodation Expenses

1. The host city of the Mayors Conference may collect a registration fee from the participants in consultation with the Secretariat. The registration fees for the representative of the Member shall be the responsibility of the host city.
2. The host city shall be responsible for the accommodation expenses of the representative of the Member from the day before and until the day after the Mayors Conference.
3. In the event that the representative of the Member sends his or her proxy to the Mayors Conference, "representative of the Member" stipulated in the previous two clauses shall be "proxy of representative of the Member."

Chapter X. Research Subcommittees

Article 52. Research Subcommittees

1. The Association may establish research subcommittees to conduct technical research and special studies of topics approved by the General Assembly.
2. In principle, research subcommittees shall be composed of senior administrators from member cities.
3. Members wishing to propose an establishment of a research subcommittee shall submit a proposal. Upon approval by the General Assembly, a research subcommittee shall be established.

Article 53. Administration

1. The secretariat (office) for the research subcommittee shall be located in the city that proposes the establishment of the research subcommittee, and the said city shall be responsible for administering the secretariat.
2. In the event that the mayor of the secretariat city changes and his or her successor declines to conduct the function of the secretariat, the President shall determine the city in which to locate the secretariat through consultation with mayors of the other cities that constitute the research subcommittee.

Article 54. Costs

1. The operational costs of any research subcommittee shall be the responsibility of the city where the secretariat is located.
2. In the event that the mayor of the secretariat city of the research subcommittee applies in a written form before the date designated by the President, the President may grant a subsidy for the operation of the research subcommittee with the upper limit described in Appendix 2.
3. The mayor who receives the grant shall submit a statement of the accounts to the President before the date designated by the President.

Article 55. Reports

1. The research subcommittees must present an annual report to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly.
2. The Research Subcommittees shall present their findings in reports to the Mayors

Conference.

Article 56. Dissolution

Dissolution of any research subcommittee shall be made by a majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly.

Chapter XI. Revitalization Project

Article 57. Revitalization Project

1. Any Member city can conduct any projects that contribute to the revitalization of the Association either independently or collaboratively with other Member cities to attain the objectives stipulated in Article 3.
2. Approval by the Working-Level Officials Meeting shall be required before starting any revitalization projects.

Article 58. Secretariat

A secretariat city shall be necessary to conduct any revitalization project.

Article 59. Costs

1. Operational costs of any revitalization project shall be the responsibility of the cities conducting the revitalization projects.
2. In the event that the mayor of the secretariat city of the revitalization project applies in a written form before the date designated by the President, the President may grant a subsidy for the operation of the revitalization project with the upper limit described in Appendix 2.
3. The Mayor who receives the grant shall submit a statement of the accounts to the President before the date designated by the President after completion of the revitalization project.

Article 60. Report

The secretariat city shall present a report of the result to the President immediately after completion of the revitalization project.

Chapter XII. Finances and Accounts

Article 61. Revenues

Membership fees, contributions, balances carried forward from the previous year, and any other income shall be considered the

revenue of the Association.

Article 62. Expenditures

The expenditure of the Association shall cover operational costs of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors, the Working-Level Officials Meeting and the Secretariat; grants to the Mayors Conference, research subcommittees and revitalization projects; and other necessary expenses.

Article 63. Membership Fees

1. Members shall pay an annual membership fee, by the end of March of each fiscal year, as stipulated in Appendix 1 into a bank account specified by the Secretariat.
2. Any change in the amount of the annual membership fee, as stipulated in Appendix 1, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly.
3. The membership fee for the first year of membership shall be half the amount presented in Appendix 1 regardless of what date membership is acquired.

Article 64. Budget

1. The budget of the Association shall be prepared by the Secretariat and presented biennially to the General Assembly for approval.

Article 65. Settlement of Accounts

1. The President shall examine the accounts of the Association and have them audited by the Auditor.
2. The President shall have the authority to sign financial statements for the purpose of settling accounts.
3. The President shall submit to the General Assembly a statement of the settled accounts, after review by the Auditor, for ratification.

Article 66. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December each year.

Chapter XIII. Amendments of the Charter

Article 67. Amendments

1. Any amendments to the Charter shall be passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the

- Members present at the General Assembly.
2. A notice of motion of amendments to the Charter must be circulated to the Members at least one month prior to the General Assembly where the motion is being presented.

Article 68. Effect

Any amendments of the Charter shall come into effect immediately after the approval by the General Assembly.

Chapter XIV. Dissolution

Article 69. Declaration of Dissolution

1. Dissolution of the Association shall require the consent of a three-fourths majority vote of the Members present at the General Assembly, and the official declaration by the President of the intent to dissolve the Association.
2. A notice of motion of the intent to dissolve the Association must be circulated to the Members at least one month prior to the General Assembly where the motion is being presented.
3. Upon dissolution of the Association, assets shall be liquidated to settle accounts. Any remaining assets shall be distributed in accordance with decisions passed by the General Assembly where the Association is dissolved.

Chapter XV. Miscellaneous

Article 70. Adviser

The Association may have an adviser.

Article 71. Administration

The President may decide any matters that are necessary for administration of the Association with the approval of the Board of Directors.

The Charter shall become valid on September 12, 2019.

Article 72. Supplementary Provision

The President shall be responsible for determining matters necessary for the execution of the Charter.

Bylaw

1. The Charter shall become valid when signed by a majority of the Members of the Northern Intercity Conference Committee (the former body that was responsible for organization and operation of the Mayors Conference).
2. The Charter shall become valid on January 1, 1994.
3. The Northern Intercity Conference Committee shall be dissolved on the day the Charter becomes valid.

Bylaw (amendments)

The Charter shall become valid on February 12, 2002

Bylaw (amendments)

The Charter shall become valid on February 19, 2004.

Bylaw (amendments)

The Charter shall become valid on January 19, 2008.

Bylaw (amendments)

The Charter shall become valid on January 14, 2012.

Bylaw (amendments)

Revised Article 34 will become applicable on January 1, 2013, and the rest of the Charter shall become valid on January 13, 2012.

Bylaw (amendments)

The Charter shall become valid on December 1, 2013.

Bylaw (amendments)

(Appendix 1)

Annual Membership Fee

(January 1 - December 31)

(Unit: US\$)

<div>GDP population</div>	0 - 9,999	10,000 or more
0 - 499,999	1,000	2,000
500,000 - 999,999	1,500	4,000
1,000,000 or more	2,000	6,000

Each member shall pay an annual membership fee in accordance with its country's per capita GDP and city population. The fee will be calculated according to data obtained from the following sources,

- (1) Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of each country
Source: United Nations "Statistical Yearbook"
- (2) Urban population (population of each city, excluding population of suburban areas)
Source: United Nations "Demographic Yearbook"

Populations of the cities which are not included in the above materials shall be assessed by respective cities themselves.

(Appendix 2)

Grant (per fiscal year)

Grant to	Ratio of Grant (percentage of the total mem- bership fee reve- nue)	Grantee
Secretariat	10%	Secretary-General
Mayors Confer- ence	60%	Mayor of the host city
Working-Level Officials Meeting	10%	Mayor of the city hosting the Working-Level Officials Meeting
Subcommittees	5%	Mayor of the city where the subcommittee secretariat is located
Revitalization Projects	15%	Mayor of the city where the project secretariat is located

*** Total membership fee revenue refers to the amount confirmed by the Secretariat at the end of each fiscal year.**