



Burlington Mundialization Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: February 4, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Room 247, City Hall, second floor

1. Members Present:

Hassan Raza, Chris VanDooren, Christine Greco, Allan Dykstra, Adham Kandil, Marybeth Curtin, Annalisa Lochan, Rachel Debling

2. Members Regrets:

Diana Tello

3. Others Present:

Councillor Rory Nisan, Lisa Palermo (Clerk), Roxanne Gosse (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the acknowledgement.

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Approval of Minutes:

6.1 Minutes of the meeting held on January 7, 2026 were approved.

7. Delegation(s): None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 Itabashi Sub-committee

Marybeth will be providing the clerk with the student pen pal letters from Burlington primary schools to be sent to Itabashi. The committee is all set for their March 7th event at Tansley Woods Community Centre.

Planning for the annual Sakura Festival is under way. The Consul General of Japan in Toronto has been notified of the date and time. A formal invite from our Mayor to the Consul General of Japan in Toronto will need to be sent.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto will host a reception on February 21, 2026, to celebrate the 66th birthday of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito. Members of the Itabashi Sub-committee have been invited to attend.

Lisa reminded the committee of the Civic Awards in April.

8.2 Apeldoorn Sub-committee

Allan advised the committee that the Apeldoorn-Burlington newsletter has been created and will be made available to the public. The clerk has been asked by the committee to mail copies of the newsletter to the Burlington sub-committee in Apeldoorn. The committee is working towards making the newspaper available on line. Rachel has been working on a press release and how a subscription might work and will be meeting with the city's Communications department. There will be two issues a year for the newspaper.

Allan stated that the pen pal program has been confirmed with the local elementary schools.

This year's Canada Netherlands Friendship Day is confirmed as May 2 at LaSalle Pavilion, the theme this year is "Burlington Celebrates".

The sub-committee is working with Recreation, Community and Culture regarding the - FIFA Caravan. They are also, working with local businesses to have them hold a viewing of the Japan and Netherlands soccer game, more to come.

Jan Koorenhof of the Burlington Sub-Committee in Apeldoorn will be recognized for his years of service to the Dutch-Canadian Community by the Netherlands Luncheon Club in Toronto on April 23.

8.3 United Nations Sub-committee

The committee is under way for the Model UN conference on Feb 27th at City Hall, there will be 83 high school students in attendance. Mayor Meed Ward will be providing a welcome video and Councillor Nisan will be a speaker at the event.

The committee to provide agenda, model UN material to the clerks.

9. Other Business:

9.1 Draft Annual Report for 2025 (each sub-committee)

Motion: approve the 2025 Mundialization's annual reports. **Carried.**

9.2 Draft Workplan and Budget for 2026 (each sub-committee)

Motion: approve the 2026 Mundialization Committee work plan and budget. **Carried**

10. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

On motion: Marybeth Curtin was elected Chair of the Mundialization Committee and Rachel Debling was elected as Vice Chair of the Mundialization Committee for the term ending December 31, 2026.

11. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm