



Burlington Mundialization Committee Meeting
Agenda

Date: April 1, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Room 247, City Hall, second floor

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

Burlington as we know it today is rich in history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the Anishinaabeg to the Haudenosaunee and the Métis – our lands spanning from Lake Ontario to the Niagara Escarpment are steeped in Indigenous history.

The territory is mutually covered by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy, the Ojibway, and other allied Nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

2. Declarations of Interest:

3. Approval of Minutes:

3.1 Approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 4, 2026

1 - 4

4. Delegation(s): None

5. Regular Items:

5.1 Itabashi Sub-committee update

5.2 Apeldoorn Sub-committee update

5.3 United Nations Sub-committee update

6. Other Business:

6.1 Reminder at our May meeting the committee will be discussing the engagement strategy to be used at the Food for Feedback event this year.

7. **Adjournment:**



Burlington Mundialization Committee Meeting

Minutes

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

1. Members Present:

Allan Dykstra, MaryBeth Curtin (Chair), Adham Kandil, Christine Greco, Chris VanDooren and Annalisa Lochan, Lisa Palermo (Clerk), Roxanne Gosse (Clerk)

2. Members Regrets:

Hassan Raza, Rachel Debling, Diana Tello and Councillor Rory Nisan

3. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.

4. Declarations of Interest:

None.

5. Approval of Minutes:

5.1 Approve the minutes of the meeting held February 4, 2026, as amended.

6. Delegation(s):

None.

7. Regular Items:

7.1 Itabashi Sub-Committee update

Dan McNeill updated the committee on his discussions with Art Gallery of Burlington (AGB) curation staff regarding the displaying of the Koyanagi ceramic collection during the 40th twinning anniversary in 2029. The AGB plans their exhibits 5 years ahead, therefore are not able to exhibit the collection. Alternative ideas were explored but are too costly to pursue.

Ideas included sending the collection to Itabashi to exhibit and/or having a virtual exhibit.

Alternate suggestions:

1) create an "online trail" linking and highlighting all the historical gifts received by Itabashi.

2) create a digital tour of Itabashi using the "Day in the Life" photographs in our possession.

3) create a digital archive of other traditional Japanese gifts already received from Itabashi.

The sub-committee will review the options and make recommendations for 2029.

The Itabashi student's art work will be arriving in Burlington at the end of March. The artwork will be displayed at the Sakura Festival.

Sakura Festival - posters and promotional cards are ready to be printed and distributed. The committee weighed the options of hiring a photographer versus have a member or staff take photos at the event.

In February, members of the sub-committee attended the the 66th birthday of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito of Japan. The event was hosted by Consul-General Takeshi Matsunaga and was held at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto.

7.2 Apeldoorn Sub-Committee update

Allan informed everyone that there will be two schools from Burlington and two from Apeldoorn that will be participating in the pen pal exchange.

The Apeldoorn and Burlington sub-committees have completed the first edition of their combined newsletter. Once the Apeldoorn content is translated into English, it will be ready for distribution. A meeting will be arranged for sub-committee members to meet with communications staff at the city to discuss ways to share the newsletter in Burlington. A special edition of the newsletter is in progress for April 17th - Liberation Day in Apeldoorn, and the content of the June edition will focus on connections through sports. Students at Trinity Christian School will contribute content to the special edition.

The sub-committee has begun discussions regarding a citizen exchange to Apeldoorn in 2027.

The theme for this year's Canada Netherlands Friendship Day is "Burlington Celebrates". Staff will follow up with Mayor Meed Ward, Elizabeth Witmer and Marjan Schippers, Consul General of Japan to confirm their attendance. Allan informed the committee that a four piece jazz group from the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and a contingent from the Burlington Teen Tour Band are being confirmed. More information to come.

On June 14th, the FIFA soccer match between Japan and the Netherlands will take place. The committee is planning an event in collaboration with a local business - location confirmation and details to come.

7.3 United Nations Sub-Committee update

The Model UN Conference held on Feb. 27th at City Hall was a success, with around 85 students in attendance from Assumption, M.M. Robinson, Notre Dame, Dr. Frank J. Hayden, Central and Abbey Park high schools . UN sub-committee members were able to network with the teachers from M.M. Robinson, Notre Dame, and Assumption. The sub-committee is looking to recruit a teacher(s) to the sub-committee and to make connections with teachers in the schools to make them aware of future Model UN events and the Shadi Salehian Memorial Model UN Leadership Award.

The Shadi Salehian Award will be presented to the successful students at the June 3rd Mundialization Committee meeting. A call for applications will go out on April 1 for approximately 3 weeks (April 20). The Sub-Committee will review applications and make selections in early May. Chris will extend an invitation to Shadi's family to attend the presentations. The award will be promoted and the application will be available on the web from April 1 - 20th.

The sub-committee advised that they are looking for more student members to join as many of their current student members are graduating this year and will not be able to participate after this year.

The Chair of the UN Sub-committee for 2026 is Annalisa Lochan.

8. Other Business:

8.1 Food for Feedback:

The committee will be participating in the Food for Feedback event on September 12, 2026. The committee will come prepared to discuss engagement tools, goals/purpose for the engagement and any overall

themes. Committee members will be asked to sign up for a 2 hour block of time to support the Mundialization table at the event.

a. Robert Bateman painting of the Japanese Crane

For the 20th twinning anniversary with the City of Itabashi, the city commissioned paintings from artist Robert Bateman. A painting of a Grey Heron was gifted to Itabashi while the painting of a Japanese Crane remained in Burlington. The Japanese Crane painting will be displayed at the new Bateman Community Centre accompanied by an interpretive panel.

9. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.