

June 17, 2016

Town and Chinese city sign historic twinning agreement

HALTON HILLS, ON – The Town of Halton Hills and Wenjiang District, located in the City of Chengdu China signed a formal twinning agreement today that establishes friendly relations and cooperation between the two communities.

The twinning is a direct outcome of a Town trade delegation to Chengdu City led by Mayor Rick Bonnette, back in March.

“We are honoured and excited to be the first Canadian municipality to enter into this kind of historic agreement with Wenjiang District”, said Mayor Bonnette. “While our communities are different, it’s that diversity that will make this an effective and valuable partnership and create many positive opportunities for both of us.”

Wenjiang is one of Chengdu’s growing districts with a population of 700,000, and is well known for its progressive work in creating a vibrant, modern and sustainable city. The original plan was for the two communities hope to enter into a twinning agreement in two years, however representatives were so impressed with some of the work being done in Halton Hills, particularly in the area of sustainability that they asked that the process be expedited.

The twinning agreement was signed during a two-day visit to Halton Hills by officials from Wenjiang. During their time here they saw some notable locations in the community.

The twinning between the Town of Halton Hills and Wenjiang will further enhance the existing friendship and facilitate cooperation on areas of mutual benefit. The opportunities for working together are considerable and range from economic development and investment attraction, to best practices around environmental protection, renewable energy, and the promotion of arts, culture, education, agriculture and tourism. Many of these areas have also been identified as priorities for the Town. For both parties, this agreement will pave the way for greater trade, improved prosperity and an enhanced quality of life.

About the Town of Halton Hills

The Town of Halton Hills, with a population of approximately 60,000, consists of two urban centres, Georgetown and Acton, the Halton Hills Premier Gateway employment area, three hamlets – Glen Williams, Stewarttown and Norval – and several smaller settlements. Halton Hills has long been recognized for its natural beauty, active agricultural community, high quality of life and proximity to major centres, including

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Brampton, Mississauga and Toronto. The Town is ranked as one of the top small communities in Canada by a national magazine.

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For further information contact:

Mayor Rick Bonnette

Town of Halton Hills

(905) 873-2601, ext. 2340

Email: mayor@haltonhills.ca