

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – FEBRUARY 22, 2011**

### **TWIN CITY MONUMENT SIGN - BAGUIO CITY CENTENNIAL PARK**

#### **Recommendation**

The Director of Economic Development recommends that this report be received for information purposes.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

Sustainability means that we make decisions and take actions that ensure a healthy environment, vibrant communities and economic vitality for current and future generations. Thus the City's commissioning of a monument sign from locally produced materials in Baguio City conforms with our Green Directions. The benefits include: reduction in the ecological footprint; provision of local economic and tourism benefits for our friendship city and exposure for the City of Vaughan.

#### **Economic Impact**

There is no economic impact from the receipt of this report.

#### **Communications Plan**

A communication plan is not applicable to this report.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the project completion.

#### **Background – Analysis and Options**

Baguio City has been a friendship city with Vaughan since 1997. With the assistance of the Filipino Canadian Association of Vaughan (FCAV), Vaughan has maintained an active city-to-city relationship.

In 2009, Baguio City Mayor Reinaldo Bautista, Jr. invited the City to participate in Baguio City's Centennial Celebration. Regional Councillor Gino Rosati, accompanied by FCAV members, attended the celebration during the period of August 28 to September 10, 2009.

As part of the celebration, Baguio City inaugurated a Global Garden with space dedicated to their twin or partnership cities. Later renamed Baguio City Centennial Park, the garden is a popular tourist destination, featuring markers and/or monuments from international cities.

On May 4, 2010 Council adopted Item 1, Report 4 of the Economic Development Committee, "*Baguio City, Philippines Visit August 28 – September 10, 2009*", directing staff to bring to Council, a proposed monument sign concept with associated costs for Vaughan's designated area within the Baguio City Centennial Park. Subsequently, on September 7, 2010, Council approved the monument sign titled Concept Three, as per Attachment 1. Concept Three incorporates elements symbolic of Vaughan and Canada, i.e. Canadian maple leaves and the stonework masonry inspired by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection sign in Kleinburg. Concept Three also relates well to the signage established by other partnership cities, and the grounds itself. The approved program budget was \$3,500.

Over the past four months work on the monument sign took place. The monument sign was manufactured in Baguio City, and installed on December 14, 2010. The total project cost to design, construct and install the monument sign was \$2,214.79. The completed sign is shown on Attachment 2.

## **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

This report is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2020 Goal: *Plan and Manage Growth and Economic Vitality.*

## **Regional Implications**

Not applicable

## **Conclusion**

Vaughan is home to a diverse ethnic community. International partnership initiatives reflect the City's commitment to fostering important international relationships that support social/cultural ties, promote educational exchanges and generate economic opportunities for residents and business enterprises.

The close collaboration by the City of Vaughan's Economic Development Department and Baguio City officials have resulted in the program being completed on time and delivered within budget.

The Vaughan Twin City Monument sign erected in Baguio City Centennial Park celebrates the warm friendship that is shared by our two cities.

## **Attachments**

1. Baguio Monument Sign Concept #3
2. Completed Vaughan Twin City Monument Sign

## **Report prepared by:**

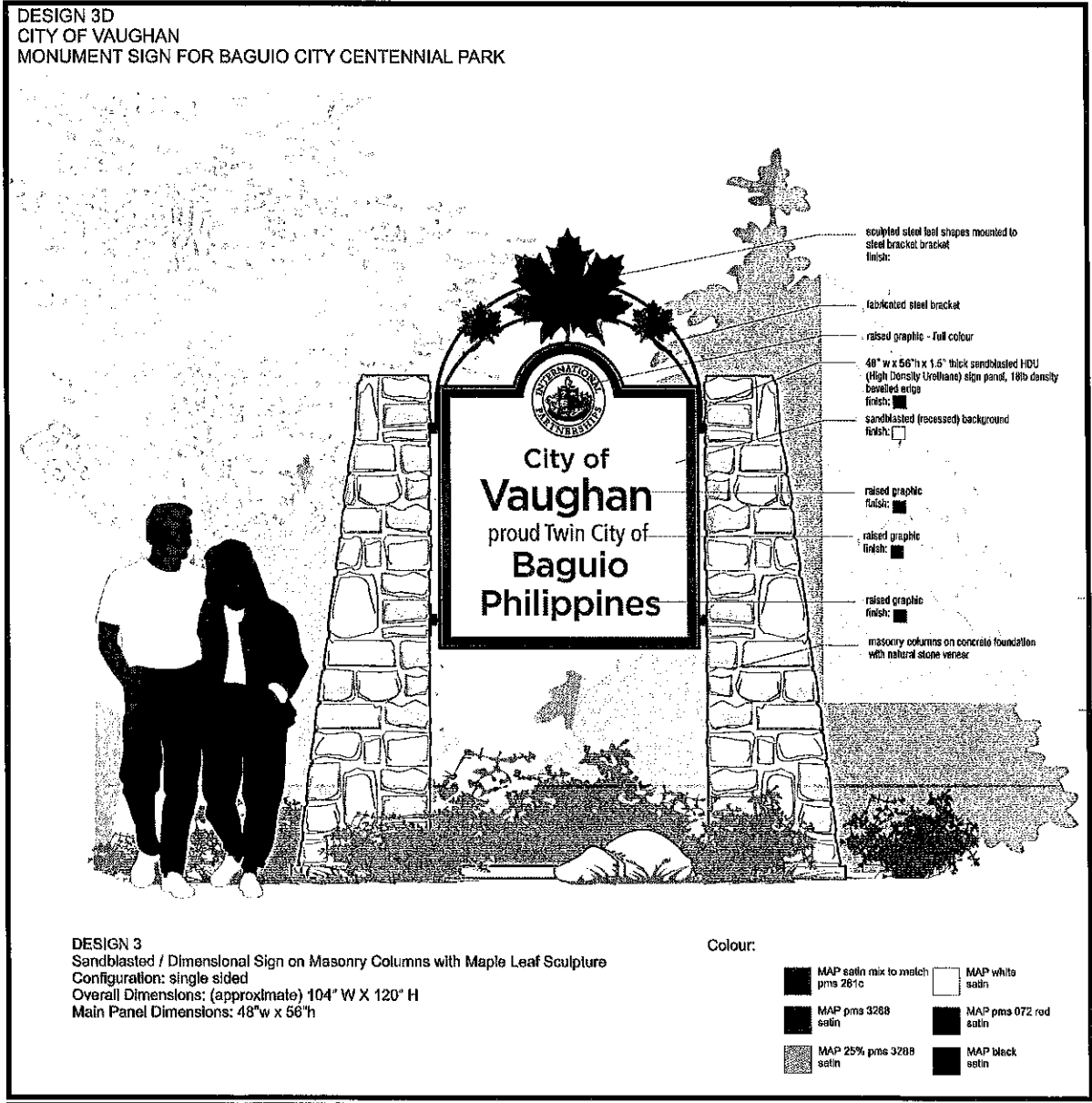
Sally Chau, Project/Marketing Coordinator

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Simmonds  
Director of Economic Development

**Attachment 1**

**Baguio Monument Sign Concept #3:**



**Attachment 2**

Completed Vaughan Twin City Monument Sign:

