Our Mission

We promote the City of Burlington as a world community by maintaining the city’s twinning relationships with Itabashi, Japan and Apeldoorn, Netherlands. We also undertake community activities to celebrate United Nations Day in the city.

Our Structure

The Committee is structured with serving members and volunteers across three subcommittees:

| Itabashi Subcommittee | Apeldoorn Subcommittee | United Nations Subcommittee |

Detailed reports on the accomplishments of each subcommittee are included in this annual report.

Message from the Chair

I am pleased to report another successful year in 2017, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our members and volunteers. As our country celebrated the sesquicentennial of its Confederation, Burlington played host to wonderful events and celebrations of its own, such as the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Kingdom of the Netherlands along with several highly attended events throughout our wonderful city.

Events to celebrate our connections with Itabashi were highly successful this year, as over 350 people collectively joined us for the Sakura Matsuri and Elementary Student Art Exchange. Additionally, there were six cultural events held at the Burlington Public Library across the year. A major milestone was passed in December when City Council approved funding to complete the Itabashi Garden at Tansley Woods Community Center by 2019, in time for the 30th anniversary of our twinning relationship.

The Apeldoorn subcommittee delivered another year of high profile initiatives. In addition to the hosting of members of the Dutch Royal Family, we also hosted a citizen’s delegation from Apeldoorn in October. The annual celebration of Canada Netherlands Friendship Day saw great attendance, with representation from all levels of government, esteemed veterans and a memorable performance by the Burlington Teen Tour Band. As a special gift, our Mayor presented a Canada 150 video greeting to our friends in Apeldoorn.

The United Way subcommittee continued its annual tradition of organizing a Model United Nations Day on October 24. This year’s event was held at Burlington Central High School and I am pleased to report that attendance this year almost doubled from last year, as close to 200 students from across Burlington, Milton and Oakville.
participated. I am further encouraged to see active volunteering from a sizeable number of high school students on our subcommittee, a sign of youth engagement thanks to our subcommittee leaders.

I look forward to a great 2018, where we plan to take a citizen’s delegation to Apeldoorn, prepare for our 30th anniversary of twinning with Itabashi and explore new events for promoting the United Nations in our community.

As always, none of this is possible without the support of City Council and the City Clerk’s Department, the hard work of our Mundialization Committee members and volunteers, as well as the Burlington community.

Ed Dorr, Chair