



## **Burlington Mundialization Committee Meeting**

### **Minutes**

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

**1. Members Present:**

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

**2. Member Regrets:**

Diana Tello

**3. Others Present:**

Councillor Rory Nisan, Lisa Palermo (Clerk)

**4. Land Acknowledgement**

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.

**5. Declarations of Interest:**

None.

**6. Approval of Minutes:**

6.1 Minutes from the meeting held on March 4, 2026, were approved.

**7. Delegation(s):**

None.

**8. Regular Items:**

8.1 Itabashi Sub-committee update

- The drop-in event held at Tansley Woods Community Centre was a great success with more than 100 attendees, and the feedback was

overwhelmingly positive. It is recommended to do this event again next year.

- Details have been finalized with the Burlington Performing Arts Centre for the Sakura Festival on May 9th. The sub-committee requests that there be recognition for Tokiko - member of the drumming group Do Kon Daiko, as she is retiring this year. Tokiko has performed for the Sakura Festival for a number of years. Members will work with city staff to arrange recognition. The sub-committee is interested in having photos taken throughout the Sakura Festival Event and request the support of city staff. The Nikkei Voice newsletter will promote the event along with the city social channels. In addition, the sub-committee will distribute posters and event postcards have been provided to BPAC for distribution in their lobby. The Consul General of Japan's attendance at the event has been confirmed.
- Discussions are underway on how to preserve the wood from Sakura trees removed from Spencer Smith Park. Unwell trees are intermittently removed, and the sub-committee will discuss the possibility of working with local guilds to create small gifts from the wood.
- The Itabashi student art has been received in Burlington and will be displayed at the Sakura Festival and at City Hall.
- The Tokyo Kasei High School in Itabashi is interested in sending letters to students in Burlington. As students in Japan are currently on spring break, the letters are expected to be collected around mid-April and forwarded shortly thereafter. M. M. Robinson High School confirmed that they are able to participate in the pen pal letter exchange.
- The Itabashi Sub-Committee will work with the Apeldoorn Sub-Committee to coordinate a community viewing of the Netherlands vs. Japan FIFA soccer game on June 14th.

## 8.2 Apeldoorn Sub-committee update

- Plans for the Canada Netherlands Friendship Day have been finalized with participation from the Mayor, Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, Burlington Teen Tour Band, Elizabeth Witmer and Burlington elementary school students. The Consul General of the Netherlands has sent regrets. The DeKrant Dutch Newspaper will

promote the event along with the city social channels. In addition, the sub-committee will distribute posters.

- The Sub-Committee is working with local teachers to start a new pen pal program between Burlington and Apeldoorn students.
- The Sub-Committee continues to work with their counterparts in Apeldoorn on distribution of the Burlington-Apeldoorn newsletter. A copy will be shared with councillors with a request to circulate to their constituents.
- The Apeldoorn Sub-Committee will work with the Itabashi Sub-Committee to coordinate a community viewing of the Netherlands vs. Japan FIFA soccer game on June 14th.

### 8.3 United Nations Sub-committee update

- The call for applications for the Shadi Salehian Memorial Award is open until April 20th. The award is being promoted on city social channels and will be shared with both the Halton Catholic and Halton District School Boards. Once the application period ends, the UN Sub-Committee members will select one or two recipients. More details to come on the award presentation event on June 3rd.
- The Sub-Committee is interested in hosting a Grade 8 Model UN information session in May and are in discussions on how to get the information to students to attend the virtual session.

## 9. Other Business:

### 9.1 Food for Feedback

A reminder to members to come prepared to discuss engagement ideas for the Food for Feedback event, at the next Mundialization committee meeting.

## 10. Adjournment:

Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m