

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING



Between the  
**Union of British Columbia Municipalities**  
**League of Cities of the Philippines**  
**League of Municipalities of the Philippines**  
**Federation of Canadian Municipalities**  
**(the associations)**  
**September 29, 2005**

## WHEREAS:

1. The Union of BC Municipalities is an association representing 184 local governments in British Columbia, Canada.
2. The League of Cities of the Philippines is an association representing 117 cities in the Philippines.
3. The League of Municipalities of the Philippines is an association representing 1,501 municipalities in the Philippines.
4. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities represents local government throughout Canada.
5. The associations share the common goal of fostering strong and effective local government.
6. The associations share the goal of continual improvement in organizational effectiveness to meet the needs of their memberships.
7. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provides funding to FCM and the Philippines-Canada Local Government Support Program (LGSP) to share Canadian experience and strengthen local governance in the Philippines.

## THEREFORE:

This Memorandum of Understanding represents a commitment by the associations to work together to achieve benefits of cooperation and capacity building in pursuing the objectives of this MOU.

## PRINCIPLES:

The following principles pertain to this Memorandum of Understanding and the actions arising from the Agreement.

These principles are:

- sharing with peers in the spirit of international cooperation.
- recognition of the importance of local governance to democratic institutions.
- commitment to professional development and understanding of different local governance systems.
- strengthen the ties and relations between the Philippines, Canada and British Columbia in terms of mutual understanding, trade and development.

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

To strengthen and develop local government associations through capacity building in:

- organizational structure - membership, elected leadership and staff secretariats;
- policy development and advocacy;
- intergovernmental and other relationships;
- communications; and
- member services and programs.

## APPROACH AND ISSUE FOCUS

The approach will be to engage in cooperation and organizational capacity building.

The agreed priority issues with respect to the Philippines are:

- revision of the local government code;
- local government finance issues; and
- solid waste management and clean air legislation.

Other mutually agreed upon policy issues may be included such as those being undertaken by UBCM as part of its policy development program.

## ACTIVITIES:

Activities undertaken under this MOU may include:

- observing association functions, board meetings and conventions;
- observing and engaging in actual policy development and advocacy processes;
- elected leadership and staff secretariat exchanges, focusing on best practices related to issues in the MOU;
- sourcing technical experts for information to support policy development on identified issues;
- sourcing experts to support strategies for policy advocacy and development of intergovernmental relations; and
- staff intern exchanges.

## IMPLEMENTATION:

The associations will establish joint working groups to further the objectives stated in this agreement. The joint working groups will meet from time to time to review joint initiatives and projects as well as to assess the general progress on goals and objectives. FCM will support all direct costs associated with activities undertaken in implementing this MOU.

The FCM and LGSP staff in the Philippines and Canada will support the implementation of the activities in the MOU.

## TERM OF THE AGREEMENT:

The Parties may agree to amend or terminate this MOU at any time. The term of this Agreement shall be two years from the date of signing unless otherwise amended.

## COMMITMENT:

In witness of this Agreement the parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding at Vancouver, B.C. on September 29, 2005.

SIGNED on behalf of the UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES by:

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Director Aaron Dinwoodie, President

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Chair Marvin Hunt, First Vice-President

SIGNED on behalf of the LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES by:

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Mayor Jerry Trenas, National President

SIGNED on behalf of the LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES by:

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Mayor Ramon Guico, National President

SIGNED on behalf of the FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES by:

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Mayor Michael Coleman, President