

The FCM has requested, through Councillor Hunt, that the City of Surrey consider hosting a dinner for the delegation. All but one of the Bolivian delegates will be visiting Canada for the first time. The Bolivian delegation will include four mayors who are on the board of FAM-Bolivia as well as the Executive Director. One or two FCM staff will be accompanying the delegation.

The City could host a dinner for the delegation and members of City Council at the Arts Centre on Thursday August 27th, with a west coast and aboriginal theme. The dinner would be catered by the Kla-how-eya Aboriginal Society Culinary Program and potentially feature entertainment such as the Children of the Rainbow. Local First Nations representatives would be invited to welcome our guests.

The City of Surrey is an active member of FCM and supports FCM's efforts to build relationships with international municipal level governments and participate in learning opportunities through international delegations. Hosting this dinner will demonstrate Surrey's continued support of FCM International efforts and provide an opportunity to assist the delegation in their efforts to learn about local government operations in Canada.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve the use of \$3,500 from the Council Initiatives Fund to host a dinner at the Surrey Arts Centre on Thursday August 27th, 2009 for a delegation from the Municipal Association of Bolivia (FAM – Bolivia).

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LAC