

April 30, 2019

Mr. Nguyen Lap  
Chairman of the People's Committee of Vung Tau City  
89 Ly Thuong Kiet, Ward 1, Vung Tau City  
Ba Ria Vung Tau Province, Vietnam

Dear Chairman Lap,

**Exploration of Partnership: Strathcona County and Vung Tau City**

As Mayor of Strathcona County, Alberta, Canada, it is my honour to send you this letter.

Our two municipalities have enjoyed a productive relationship through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Vietnam Urban Associations. Strathcona County supported Vung Tau City in undertaking a pilot population survey on urban migration in 2010.

As a gesture of our friendship, Strathcona County built a playground in Vung Tau City. The playground can be found at Front Beach, along with two plaques that commemorate the successful relationship our municipalities share. Members of our staff have been fortunate to maintain relationships with friends in Vung Tau City.

It was my pleasure to meet with the Ambassador of Vietnam to Canada – His Excellency Nguyen Duc Hau and his wife Madam Tran Nguyen Anh Thu in Strathcona County on March 5, 2019. Many topics of potential cooperation were discussed, including cultural, educational and economic opportunities between Vung Tau City and Strathcona County.

Through our discussions it became clear to us that we have much in common with Vung Tau City, such as similar populations and active oil and gas industries. We see the potential for our two jurisdictions to cooperate in many areas. These could include cultural exchanges, tourism development, education exchanges, sharing of municipal best practices, economic development, oil and gas servicing, agriculture, and skills training, along with other areas.

My Council supports extending a request through this letter that we enter into formal discussions to explore the formation of a Friendship or Sister City partnership between Strathcona County and Vung Tau City.

We would like to begin discussions around what a successful Friendship or Sister City relationship between Strathcona County and Vung Tau City might look like, in the context of these four pillars:

- Culture and Tourism
- Student Exchange Program
- Municipal Cooperation and Sharing of Best Practices
- Economic Development

Strathcona County is looking towards a future with strong international relationships. We appreciate the Ambassador's advice and we have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Chairman of the People's Committee of Ba Ria Vung Tau Province.

It is our hope that Vung Tau City officials also support exploring a productive relationship between our two municipalities. We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours truly,

Rod Frank, JD, BCom  
Mayor  
Strathcona County

cc: His Excellency Nguyen Duc Hau  
Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Canada

Mr. Nguyen Van Trinh  
Chairman of the People's Committee of Ba Ria Vung Tau Province