



Bellingham Sister Cities Association 2011 Year in Review Programs, Projects and Accomplishments



Increased membership and developed updated list of members and supporters

Increased bottom line on balance sheet

Continued the redevelopment of the BSCA website

Barbara Sanchez became Washington State Sister Cities Coordinator

Attended annual Washington State Sister Cities meeting

Developed greater recognition of our organization in the community

Provided update to City Council on BSCA activities

Organized successful International Sister Cities Ski to Sea Team:

- Partnered with Whatcom Events as fiscal partner

- Developed sponsorship relationship with Saturna Capital - Primary Team Sponsor

- Partnered with WWU, Comm 224 class under Prof. Kevin Carey to provide service learning and internship opportunities

- Raised over \$11K in community donations to fly an athlete from each of our sister cities to compete on the team

- Hosted 22 international delegates/athletes in local homestays

- Participated in public presentations at Wade King Elementary and Bellis Fair Mall

- Participated in Ski to Sea Sponsorship Dinner

- Organized after race party, sailing adventure and farewell party

- Developed long lasting international friendships towards the sister city mission

- Have interest from several sister cities in sending complete teams for 2012 event

- Event covered in several local publications including Herald, Weekly, Bellingham Alive, KOMO4 News blog and Canadian adventure magazine

Organized and conducted successful Vines & Twines fundraising event at Boundary Bay

- Net proceeds of over \$2,000 from event

Conducted successful annual meeting at Bellingham Technical College

Formalized relationship with Tsetserleg, Mongolia – BSCA's seventh sister city

- Sent delegation to Tsetserleg to meet with city representatives for signing ceremony

- Traveled throughout central Mongolia visiting with locals, seeing National Parks and learning about Mongolian culture

- Met with US Ambassador to Mongolia, Director of USAID, and representative of Millenium Challenge Corporation

Hosted US Ambassador to Mongolia in Bellingham for public presentation, breakfast meeting with Mayor Pike and lunch meeting with WWU representatives



Event covered in several local publications including Herald, Weekly and KOMO4 News blog

Organized Windhorse Run to support Mongolian scholarships

Organized Mongolia Days event and photo exhibit at WWU

Partnered with WWU to provide support (welcome and farewell events) for Cheongju summer student educational exchange

Barbara Sanchez attended annual Biennale Art festival and met with sister city contacts while in Cheongju

Continued student exchange with Punta Arenas, Chile. Three students visited Bellingham from January – March and studied at Sehome High School

Communicated with Tateyama contacts after earthquake and tsunami

Attended Washington/Japan sister city dinner as part of annual Washington State Sister City Meeting

Worked on developing children's reading project through local public library and sister city organizations

Coordinated Bellingham PacRim Team for 2012 PacRim in Port Stephens

Barbara Sanchez visited Port Stephens and met with sister city representatives

Hosted Pt. Stephens city staff member

Continued economic development work with Nakhodka