

Chinese Delegation for Sustainable Community Development Visits Canada

Victoria, BC: Eleven delegates from China joined Harmony Foundation at Gaining Ground: Urban Development Leadership Summit June 4-6 in Victoria, Canada. The Summit, with its theme "Whole City Change", attracted city building professionals, government officials, academics, and NGO leaders from all over the world. The delegates represented Chinese organizations key to the development and implementation of the leadership training programs for sustainable community development in China.

Chen Jianying, Vice-president, EMCC, Zhu Gengshen, Director, Department of Environmental Sciences, EMCC, and Xue Yanyan, Project Coordinator for the Leadership Training Program represented the Environmental Management College of China (EMCC). EMCC is Harmony's primary partner in the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development.

Wang Zhongping, Director of the National Training Centre for Mayors in China (NTCMC), and Li Hua, Division Chief and Mayor Training Course Coordinator for NTCMC also attended the conference. Harmony and NTCMC are collaborating to produce a training and dialogue event which will inform Chinese mayors from medium and large cities about the benefits of sustainable community development, and how city leaders, city building professionals and community members can work together to achieve practical results.

Harmony and NTCMC plan to hold the event October 2007 at the National Training Centre for Mayors. The event will be organized in cooperation with the Oriental Environmental Research Institute (OEI) and Earth Council Alliance (ECA), as well as the Centre for Urban Innovation. Two representatives from the United Nations Habitat



Chinese Delegation and Harmony Foundation representatives at Gaining Ground Summit: (left to right) Front row: Zhu Gengshen, Chen Jianying, Zang Xiuqing, Michael Bloomfield, Wang Zhongping, Liu Zhaode, Xue Yanyan Back row: He Jianqing, Wu Heli, Wen Zongguo, Zhang Shenghua,

2008 in Nanjing, China attended the conference as part of the China delegation: Professor Wu Heli, Section-chief of Resource Development of WUF4 Preparatory Committee, and Zhang Shenghua, Deputy Director of Policy and Legislation Department, Nanjing Municipal Construction Commission.

Harmony Foundation, and Environmental Management College of China with the Centre for Urban Development and the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) will produce demonstration training and dialogue sessions on sustainable community development for the WUF4 global event.

Liu Zhaode, Secretary-general of OEI, joined the delegation. Professor Liu's involvement has been important to produce the annual OEI/ECA international sustainable development events. Under Professor Qu Geping's leadership, OEI plays an important advisory role for the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China.

Prof. Wen Zongguo, an expert in Ecological Economics and Assistant Professor of Tsinghua University attended the conference. He has recently been appointed by State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) to conduct technological assessment of China Environmental Protection Demonstration Municipality.

see Canada Visit page 2



Minister Meets with Delegate Team: (left to right) Wu Heli, Michael Bloomfield, Zhang Shenghua, and John English with Murray Coell (second from right), British Columbia's Minister of Advanced Education.



Special thanks to the **Betsy Gordon Foundation** for their support for the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China.

continued from page 1

Canada Visit a Success for Harmony, Chinese Delegation

Professor Wen advises Tsinghua University's Green Association, a student organization dedicated to environmental education of elementary school children, and active in the "greening" of Tsinghua's campus in Beijing.

Students from the Green Association will participate in the October 2007 mayors event. The association enjoys Harmony Foundation's active support.

Zang Xiuqing, Professor of Economic Management Department, Yanshan University and an expert in Sustainable Development Economics, and He Jianqing, National Registered Senior Urban Planner, and Secretary-general, Special Committee of Human Settlements, Chinese Society for Sustainable Development, were members of the delegation. Both serve as key advisors to the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development.

Harmony, Gaining Ground, BCIT, and ECA sponsored the delegation. Special thanks to Professors Zhang Kunmin and Zhang Mingshun for their leadership in choosing the delegates.

Gaining Ground chose Paul Hawken as keynote speaker for the conference; Mr. Hawken is author of *Natural Capitalism* and has recently released a new work entitled *Blessed Unrest*, chronicling the powerful NGO movement.

The evening prior to the conference, Harmony Foundation hosted a very successful public presentation by Mr. Hawken on the vital role of public participation.

Harrison Fraker, Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, University of California at Berkeley, presented. Fraker will also present at the October 2007 mayors event.

Fraker is leading an effort to develop sustainable communities in China based upon Berkeley's "Eco Blocks" concept, a sustainable community development design.

Harmony, BCIT, and Chinese Delegates Offer Sessions for Gaining Ground: Urban Development Leadership Summit

The following conference sessions were offered by Harmony's China program collaborates:

Meeting Sustainability Leadership Challenges in China Through Training and Education—Can the World's 'Factory Floor' Go Green?

Chen Jianying, Vice-President of Environmental Management College of China, Qinquangdao



Chen Jianying, Vice-president, EMCC, (left) presented at Gaining Ground Summit held June 4-6 in Victoria, B.C.

Sustainability as a Centrepiece of the 4th World Urban Forum, Nanjing, China

Zhang Shenghua, Deputy Director of Policy and Legislation Department, Nanjing Municipal Construction Commission and Wu Heli, Section-Chief of Resource Development of WUF4 Preparatory Committee

Training Mayors for Sustainable Community Development in China

Wang Zhongping, Director of National Training Centre for Mayors of China, professor

Education and Professional Development

John English, Jennie Moore, Donald Yen, British Columbia Institute of Technology; Michael Bloomfield, Harmony Foundation, Moderator: *Integrating Sustainability with Education and Professional Training—The Imperatives of Creating a New Generation of Practitioners*

Harmony, Chinese Delegates Attend Vancouver Meetings

Greater Vancouver Regional District Officials Meet with Harmony, Chinese Delegates

Five mayors from cities represented in the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) and their mayors committee, met with representatives from Harmony and the Chinese delegation to discuss potential collaboration.

GVRD mayors expressed a strong interest in exchanging best practices knowledge, success stories, and lessons learned with the Chinese.

The mayors cited the importance of development that is socially and environmentally sustainable, Harmony's strong relationship with NTCMC, and the potential for mutually beneficial commercial endeavours for

see Vancouver Meetings next page

2007 Chinese Delegation Sponsors:



continued from page 2

Vancouver Meetings Yield Results

businesses in China and British Columbia, as key factors driving their interest in collaboration with Harmony and the Chinese delegation.

Harmony's Founder and Executive Director Michael Bloomfield, along with Darrell Erb Jr., Harmony programs consultant, will attend follow up meetings with GVRD in Vancouver later this month.

Globe Foundation Welcomes Delegate Team

Harmony representatives and Chinese delegates met with John Wiebe, Globe Foundation CEO, and Charles Kelly, World Urban Forum 3 (WUF3) Commissioner General Thursday, June 7 in Vancouver. The meeting was held to discuss potential collaboration between Harmony, Globe, World Urban Forum, and the Chinese delegates.

As part of the Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China, Harmony will join Gaining Ground, BCIT, NTCMC and ECA to stage key events at WUF4 in Nanjing. Chinese WUF4 repre-

WUF4
Nanjing, China
13-17 October 2008

sentatives Professor Wu Heli, Section-chief of Resource Development of WUF4 Preparatory Committee, and Zhang Shenghua, Deputy Director of Policy and Legislation Department, Nanjing Municipal Construction Commission, met with Mr. Kelly and Mr. Wiebe after the informational meeting to discuss collaboration between Canada and China to benefit WUF4 Nanjing.

Mr. Kelly and Mr. Wiebe teamed to produce WUF3 in 2006, UN Habitat's best-attended event ever. The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China held its international launch as part of WUF3.

Delegation Team Meets with BCIT Officials, Tours Campus

Harmony and its Chinese delegation toured the BCIT campus, and developed further a three-way collaboration involving Harmony, EMCC, and BCIT.

BCIT, like EMCC, trains environmental managers and engineers, and Harmony specializes in leadership training for city leaders, city building professionals, and concerned citizens. The three institutions are exploring ways to exchange best practices knowledge, instructors, and students. The triad may collaborate to develop a

Bachelor's of Technology program in Sustainable Community Development currently being developed by BCIT with Harmony Foundation.

BCIT and Harmony, along with Gaining Ground and EMCC, will also cooperate to produce leadership training events and dialogue sessions at WUF4 Nanjing.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CHMC) Presents to Delegates, Harmony

Leaders at the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CHMC) are working with the Shanghai Land Group Co. Ltd., Ramsay Worden Architects Ltd., and others to design a set of principles by which sustainable community development could be achieved in China.

Working with numerous organizations from the sustainable development, construction, and architectural sectors, CHMC and Shanghai have written their principles under five major themes: Pedestrian and Transit Oriented Urban Form, Livable Community, Ecological Protection, Efficient Energy and Resource Use, and Enhance Economic Performance.

CHMC, Harmony, and the Chinese delegates agreed that there is potential for cooperation, and to further explore those opportunities.



Wang Zhongping, Director, National Training Centre for Mayors in China, (left) spoke in Victoria.



Wu Heli, WUF4 representative, addressed the conference.

The Leadership Training Program for Sustainable Community Development in China

China's economic juggernaut has brought many challenges. Collaboration has begun to build the leadership and public participation needed to achieve socially and environmentally sustainable community development.

Our goal is a holistic approach which meets local needs while contributing to national progress and international cooperation.

By increasing local capacity for decision-making and community building more and more communities are able to respond to the challenges posed by issues such as water, bio-diversity, food security and climate change.

The program provides community residents, mayors, city leaders, and city building professionals skills to take an active role in local problem-solving and decision-making.

Harmony Foundation and the Environmental Management College of China are collaborating to create a Chinese national leadership training program for sustainable community development, with support and assistance from Earth Council Alliance and Oriental Environmental Research Institute.

During a very successful trip to China in May, 2007, program partners:

- completed demonstration training sessions with selected community groups in Qinhuangdao as part of preparation for pilot programs
- held successful forum and demonstration training sessions with Qinhuangdao city leaders and

Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) leaders

- worked closely with the EMCC Project Team to further adapt Harmony's leadership training to develop the "train the trainers" program with the annual OEI/ECA conference in October, 2007
- consulted with and obtained program endorsements from Centre of Sustainable Development- China Social Science Academy; Bureau of Planning and Finance- Chinese Academy of Sciences; Department of Environmental Sciences & Technology- Tsinghua University; Department of Regional Economy- National Development and Reform Commission; and the Department of the Environment- National Development and Reform Commission, to expand the program's network and further inform Chinese leaders about program activities
- met with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) at the Embassy of Canada in Beijing

Since June 2006, significant results have been achieved by the partners including:

- established a seven-person Project Team at the Environmental Management College
- completed translation, adaptation, and external reviews of Harmony Foundation's *Community Action Workshop Manual* and *Green Cities: a Guide for Sustainable Community Development*
- began adaptation of Harmony community leadership training and work with pilot communities in Hebei Province
- initiated work for publication on a compilation of Chinese success stories in sustainable community development
- obtained program endorsements from various government agencies, colleges and universities and leaders in sustainable community development in China
- secured funding for 11 Chinese program delegates to attend Gaining Ground: Sustainable Urban Development Leadership Summit, Victoria, Canada -June 4-6, 2007 and to attend post-conference meetings to discuss collaboration
- brought together British Columbia Institute of Technology and Environmental Management College of China regarding potential program collaboration and faculty/student exchanges
- began discussions with leaders of World Urban Forum IV in Nanjing, China 2008 to develop workshops and training for mayors, city building professionals and other community leaders
- conducted, with OEI and ECA, a conference on sustainable community development in Beijing October 2006 for leading Chinese NGO's and academic institutions

Thank you to our volunteer conference interpreters: Pan Ting, Connie He and Jiang Wei, whose great work was appreciated.