

Memorandum of Understanding

Augmenting

The Sister City Relationship

Between

The Cities of Scranton, PA (USA) and Sulaymaniyah (KRG, Iraq)

Whereas, the Sister City Program, administered by Sister Cities International®, was initiated by the President of the United States of America in 1956 to encourage greater friendship and understanding between the United States and other nations through direct personal contact; and

Whereas, in order to foster those goals, the people of Scranton, Pennsylvania (USA) and Sulaymaniyah (Kurdistan Regional Government, Iraq) in a gesture of friendship and goodwill, agree to collaborate for the mutual benefit of their communities by exploring educational, economic and cultural opportunities.

Whereas, we agree to support and encourage opportunities for mutually beneficial practical exchanges in the fields of business, arts and culture, health, science, education, green technology sports, and tourism.

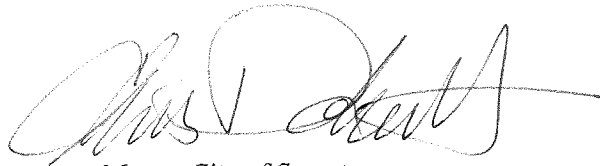
Whereas, both cities will continue to foster a flourishing relationship—building global cooperation at the municipal level, promoting cultural understanding and stimulating economic development, both Cities agree to undertake together these below listed projects:

1. Providing new opportunities for city officials and citizens from Scranton and Sulaymaniyah to experience and explore each other's respective cities.
2. Pursuing a program to exchange governmental personnel.
3. Supporting the establishment of cooperation and partnership between the business communities in Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.
4. Exchanging information and best practices for green technology and management between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.
5. Exchanging information on best designs and models in architecture between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.
6. Supporting the establishment of formal dialogues between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah's medical, natural, and social sciences educational and research institutions.
7. Exchanging information and best practices for healthcare management between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.

8. Continued commitment to supporting the highly successful student exchange between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.
9. Establishing an artist-exchange program which will broaden each city's cultural and artistic awareness and provide a unique and invaluable platform upon which this global partnership may be illuminated.
10. Encouraging tourisms between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.
11. Encouraging tournaments and sports competition between Scranton and Sulaymaniyah sports teams.
12. Celebrating the cultures, history, and folklores of the American and Kurdish people.
13. Both Cities agree to entertain additional proposals so long as they are able to be adequately funded and meet the criteria of offering mutual benefit and promoting the missions of Scranton and Sulaymaniyah.

Now Therefore, Scranton, Pennsylvania (USA) and Sulaymaniyah (KRG-Iraq) do hereby proclaim themselves Sister Cities, and declare their intent to abide by these guidelines indefinitely according to Sister Cities International® policies.

This document goes into effect on the date of signature.



Mayor, City of Scranton
Christopher Doherty

Date: 7-06-2013



Mayor of Sulaymaniyah, KRG-Iraq

Yussef Saied

Date: 1-08-2013