

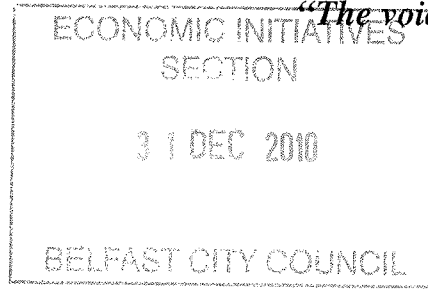


# 會 利 福 人 華 愛 北

## CHINESE WELFARE ASSOCIATION

*"The voice and ears of the community"*

The Right Honorable  
Lord Mayor of Belfast Pat Convery  
Lord Mayor's Office  
Belfast City Hall, Belfast  
BT1 5GS



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cc. Lisa Toland, Economic Development, Belfast City Council

21 December 2010

The Right Honorable Lord Mayor of Belfast, Pat Convery,

As mentioned at a recent meeting, Chinese Welfare Association will be organising the biggest Chinese New year annual celebrations at St Georges Market next year. The event attracted over 7000 people last year with cultural performances from Sichuan province, China, our first Masterchef competition with the Council's Environmental Health department, local performances, workshops and stalls. There also featured a good range of statutory and supporting agencies such as PSNI, Belfast Harbour Police and Unite against Hate.

The event is a great event to support anti-hate in the City and supports anti-racism in giving people an opportunity to celebrate a cultural day for all.

For the first time, Hefei Province, which is twinned with Belfast City Council will be coming to join our Chinese New Year Celebrations and will be in Northern Ireland for four days. Accompanying Hefei Municipal Civic Center will be Hefei's cultural performers who we hope to meet officials at Belfast City Hall and Stormont on their visit. The New Year celebrations will allow a period of time for cultural exchange between the twin cities. It is quite late in the day for these arrangements but I hope you understand the formalities and restraints between Councils and countries that Chinese Welfare Association and Chinese Chamber of Commerce have been working to encourage this wonderful opportunity.

I am therefore a writing to request if funding could be sought from Belfast City Council to support the Chinese New Year in 2011 and if you could consider us if there is any slippage in the Council to help us meet the costs as this visit has incurred a shortfall to our budget. A shortfall has arisen in hospitality, accommodation and hosting our twin city delegates. I am happy to meet and provide further details as required in the New Year.

I look forward to your reply,

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Chan-Hu  
Chief Executive

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