

## CITY OF SAINT PAUL Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

390 City Hall 15 West Kellogg Boulevard Saint Paul, MN 55102

Telephone: 651-266-8510

Facsimile: 651-228-8513

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your interest in the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC). As you know, the Asian community is growing dramatically in Saint Paul and throughout Minnesota. The Asian Pacific Cultural Center facility will be a critical resource for both new immigrants and longstanding citizens. Through a variety of cultural, educational, and civic opportunities, thousands of individuals and families from thruought the Midwest will not only be able to learn about and appreciate Asian traditions, but will be able to incorporate Asian values into their lives. The proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center will help to protect and to preserve many Asian and Pacific Islander cultures, while encouraging integration into our larger community.

The City of Saint Paul is committed to making a home for APCC at the former Hamm's Brewery site on Minnehaha Avenue. This redevelopment opportunity truly reflects the changing faces of Minnesota as it did when Hamm's opened in the late 1800's. We are working hard to forge a public/private partnership for this project. Continued investment from State of Minnesota, at this stage in the project, would ensure the success of the plan and would allow the full Hamm's site renovation plan to move forward as scheduled later in 2008.

Thank you again for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman,

Christin D. Coleman

Mayor

City of Saint Paul



November 29, 2007

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Asian American Chamber of Commerce which is an umbrella organization for Asian Chambers that represent thousands of Asian owned businesses in the State. The rich heritage that the Asian immigrants have brought to Minnesota needs to be celebrated, preserved, and shared with all Minnesotans. Some of these treasures have been in the making for thousands of years. APCC building project will be the center for showcasing this activity.

We at the Chamber wholeheartedly support the mission of APCC and urge all Minnesotans to support this cause. This will be a major addition to arts and culture in Minnesota. In addition the project will provide economic development opportunities.

Minnesota will be richer culturally for having this center located here. Some of these treasures have been in the making for thousands of years. Please help showcase these in Minnesota. I hope you'll give serious consideration to the project when approached for support.

Sincerely,

A.J. Siddiqui President



### 傳龍基金

July 20, 2006

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing in support of the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center, a Center that will celebrate the diverse cultural heritages of the many Asians who call the Twin Cities home.

There has been a need for such a Center in the Twin Cities for some time. In addition to its long-time Chinese and Japanese residents, the Twin Cities has become the preferred designation for many more recent Vietnamese, Hmong, Pacific Islanders, and other Asian immigrants. We now are a truly Pan-Asian community and need a place where we can come together to celebrate and showcase our many artistic and cultural treasures, understand and learn from each other, and serve as a resource and a bridge to the greater Twin Cities community.

These are the identical goals of the Chinese Heritage Foundation. We seek to promote and preserve Chinese history, arts and culture, encourage creativity and bring about mutual understanding among all peoples. We look forward to collaborating with the Asian Pacific Cultural Center and utilizing its space for many events in the years to come.

We are therefore excited about the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center and sincerely hope that you will help to make it a reality.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ming to Thou



### Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans

658 Cedar Street, Suite 160 Saint Paul, MN 55155

tel: 651.296.0538 fax: 651.297.8735

www.state.mn.us/ebranch/capm/

March 21, 2006

Ms. Naomi Chu Executive Director Asian Pacific Cultural Center P.O. Box 4097 St. Paul, MN 55104

Re: Letter of Support for the Asian Pacific Cultural Center

Dear Ms. Chu,

On behalf of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, I am pleased to pledge the Council's full support for the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) and the plan to construct a Pan-Asian facility in St. Paul.

The concept for a Pan-Asian center has been in discussion for many years, and has consistently been identified as a common need for the diverse body of Asian cultures represented in Minnesota. The Council and the Asian populations we represent are greatly indebted to APCC for undertaking this important effort and for bringing the concept of an Asian cultural center to the broader community for support.

The Council is prepared to support this effort in every way possible and will work with the APCC Board of Directors and community leaders to create a home for Pan-Asian cultures in Minnesota. While APCC will be located in St. Paul, the facility will serve the entire state, and will be a lasting resource for all of Minnesota to share.

Sincerely,

Jodie Tanaka

Board Chair

Cc: Ilean Her, CAPM Executive Director San Asato, APCC Board Chair

Jodie Janaka



### TONI CARTER

## BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 4

JOHN STILES ASSISTANT TO COMMISSIONER 220 COURT HOUSE SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 TEL. (651) 266-8366 FAX (651) 266-8370

October 24, 2005

Naomi Chu Executive Director, Asian Pacific Cultural Center P.O. Box 4097 Saint Paul, MN 55104

Dear Ms. Chu,

I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC), planned for the heart of my district in Saint Paul.

I am excited by the APCC's potential to meet the vital needs of both the longstanding members of Minnesota's Asian Pacific community and of its newest members. Those who have called Minnesota home for some time and are already so much a part of the current fabric of our communities seek ways to remain connected to their cultures and histories of origin. Keeping this connection vibrant can play a key role in ensuring healthy long-term outcomes for youth and adults. At the same time, those who are new to Minnesota and the United States face great challenges in transitioning to their new lives here, and I am pleased that the APCC proposes to offer a wide range of essential cultural and social services to them.

As a mixed-use, intercultural development including residential, office, commercial and program spaces, APCC will offer space and programming to help meet these needs.

At the same time, I believe the APCC also offers the promise educating Minnesotans of other backgrounds about the wide variety of Asian cultures and peoples. In particular, I look forward to the APCC's reaching out to members of other longstanding communities along University Avenue and sharing space to engage with them in joint activities that reflect on and honor history, build community and work toward a common future.

I wish the APCC success in bringing its plans to fruition as Minnesota's Asian-Pacific communities continue to grow and enrich our lives in Ramsey County. We will all benefit from a community center that will engage a multi-ethnic collaboration of individuals and organizations in affirming the cultural heritage of Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, engendering pride and self-confidence among those connecting to these heritages, and providing increased opportunity for others to learn about Minnesota's Asian-Pacific communities. I am pleased to welcome the APCC to my neighborhood.

Sincerely.

Joni Carter





October 16, 2005

Asian Pacific Cultural Center Ms. Naomi Chu, Executive Director P.O. Box 4097 Saint Paul, MN 55104

Dear Ms. Chu:

This letter is on behalf of Asian Students In Action (A.S.I.A.) at St. Cloud State University. It is our intention to work cooperatively with the Asian Pacific Cultural Center to promote Pan-Asian Cultures throughout Minnesota.

A.S.I.A.'s mission is to increase the knowledge of Asian Cultures through various events and opportunities, to promote and increase cultural diversity on campus and in the community, to be a voice for underrepresented peoples, create a positive learning environment and to be active in the movement for social change. We see the Asian Pacific Cultural Center as sharing our mission and being very important to the Pan-Asian community throughout the state. A.S.I.A. fully supports the creation of the Asian Pacific Cultural Center and encourages other organizations and groups to give their support.

Sincerely, Asian Students In Action

Anteste (pres)

Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Guoping Mao 3M Center, 201-3N-06 CRML St. Paul, MN 55144

Naomi Chu Executive Director Asian Pacific Cultural Center P.O. Box 4097 St Paul, MN 55104

Dear Ms. Chu:

Asian arts and culture are key elements in the fabric of the Twin Cities community. A center that brings together these cultural treasures will be a major addition to arts and economic development opportunities. The 3M China Club is in full support of this concept, and stands ready to utilize the new facility in a variety of ways.

The 3M China Club serves as a bridge between 3M and China and promotes cultural awareness, understanding and diversity within 3M. As such, the mission of the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) is very in tune with our goals, and we look forward to APCC serving as a bridge between Chinese, Pan-Asian, and American cultures.

We are very excited about the oncoming Asian Pacific Cultural Center, and will work hard to help make this important facility a reality.

Sincerely,

Guoping Mao

3M China Club Chair

## **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS Tyrone Terrill, Director**



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Randy C. Kelly , Mayor

240 City Hall

15 W. Kellogg Boulevard Saint Paul, MN 55102-1681 Telephone: 651-266-8964 Facsimile: 651-266-8962

TDD: 651-266-8977

August 22, 2005

Ms. Naomi Chu
Executive Director
ASIAN PACIFIC CULTURAL CENTER
P.O. Box 4097
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

Dear Ms. Chu:

I write to thank you for stopping by the Saint Paul Department of Human Rights (Department) to share with me your vision for the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) in the City of Saint Paul.

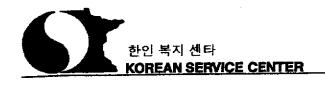
As Director of the Department, I strongly support your vision to have the APCC in the City of Saint Paul. I believe the APCC will assist the Department in our efforts to educate the community on the many contributions that the Asian Pacific community has made to the City of Saint Paul and the State of Minnesota. This joint educational effort will reduce the myths and stereotypes that contribute to prejudice, racism and discrimination in our society.

I believe that when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education, and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered men have torn down, other-centered men can build up", he had in his vision for the future, you and the APCC. The audacity of you and those associated with the AAPC to want three meals for your bodies, education and culture for the total community that will only breath life into ones dignity, and their fight for freedom and equality. What many self-centered men and women in the Asian Pacific community and other communities have torn down over the years, other centered men and women from the Asian Pacific community and other communities will join together to build up starting with educational centers like the APCC.

Should clarification, additional information or a meeting be desired, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned at 651-266-8964.

For Equality and Justice for All,

Director



630 Cedar Ave S. B1, Minneapolis, MN 55454 Tel. (612) 342-1344 Fax. (612) 342-1341

Nov. 29, 2004

Dear Asian Pacific Cultural Center,

I am writing this on behalf of the Korean Service Center and Korean-American community in Minnesota to support the Asian Pacific Cultural Center.

The Korean Service Center (KSC) was established in 1990 to provide social services to non-English speaking Korean immigrants in Minnesota. Currently, we have programs such as Special Access Program, Caregiver Support Program, Family Enrichment Program and Assisted Living Program. The past fourteen years, KSC has grown as a well known organization that has built a strong relationship with other organizations and communities.

Since we have been established, we have not been able to own a facility for our activities and even an office space, it is very encouraging to know that Minnesotan Asians are together to build a Asian Pacific Cultural Center for organizations like us. This project is of great importance not only to the Korean American community but to all Pan-Asian communities throughout Minnesota.

I can foresee the future of this cultural center used by many individuals and organizations for workshops, performances, exhibitions and even for traditional weddings.

Therefore we wholeheartedly endorse the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center and look forward to utilizing this promising new facility in the near future. Thank you for your special consideration on this needed project.

Sincerely,

Joonju Park Mrs. Yoonju Park

Executive Director of Korean Services Center

# CO QUAN NGƯỜI VIỆT MINNESOTA VIETNAMESE MINNESOTANS ASSOCIATION



Saint Paul - Minneapolis - Bloomington (Non-Profit Organization)

August 30, 2004 Mr. Satoru Asato, President Asian Pacific Cultural Centre 1030 Uninversity Ave. #160C St. Paul, MN 55104

Mr. Asato,

Asian Arts and Culture are the Key elements in the fabric of the Twin Cities Community. A center that brings together the cultural treasures, will be a major addition to arts and economic development opportunities.

The Vietnamese Minnesotans Association (VMA) is in full support of this concept and stands ready to connect community to utilize the new facility in a variety of ways.

The VMA is an independent community based organization, stated by a group of concerned individuals in October 1992 in corporate July 1993 under chapter 317 of the Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation Act.

The main purpose of the Vietnamese Minnesotans Association (VMA) is to promote the self-sufficiency and well being of the Southeast Asian Refugees and Asian Minnesotans, particularly the Vietnamese and their integration into American Society. Furthermore, to unite the Asian communities. Using the findings from public and private sources, corporate, foundations and individuals, with its non-profit and independent status and through the policies established by the VMA Board of Directors, this agency is dedicated to do its best to diminish the social problems created by an extensive influx of Southeast Asian refugees into the State of Minnesota.

- To provide emergency assistance along with counseling, information and referrals, and advocacy.
- To assist refugees and MAAs in their self-help development and integration into the cultural, social, economic, and political arenas in Minnesota.
- To improve the economic conditions of disadvantaged South East Asian refugees.
- To reach out to employers, industries and business to develop employment opportunities for Vietnamese refugees.
- To work with voluntary and government agencies and MAAs to improve refugee resettlement

The VMA is excited about the proposed Asian Pacific Center, and together with Vietnamese Community, we wish you continue success for years to come.

Sincerely,

John Tranberg

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**Executive Director** 

### SOUTHEAST ASIAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY HOME (SEARCH)

1421 Park Avenue. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404 Tel.: (612) 673-9388. Fax: (612) 673-0840 Email: search-mn@visi.com

A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization

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Mr. Satoru San Asato

President

Asian Pacific Cultural Center 1030 University Avenue West

St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Mr. Asato:

We have learned that you are organizing a Capital Campaign to build an Asian Pacific Cultural Center for the Asian community. Asian arts and culture are key elements in the fabric of the Twin Cities community. A center that brings together these cultural treasures will be a major addition to arts and economic development opportunities. Our organization, Southeast Asian Refugee Community Home (SEARCH) is in full support of this concept, and stands ready to utilize the new facility in a variety of ways.

As you may know that SEARCH is a nonprofit organization. Its mission is to "Assist Southeast Asian and other refugees to become integrated into, and to contribute to, the social and economic well-being of society." For over twelve years, SEARCH has provided comprehensive employment, educational and social services to more than 2,300 disadvantaged community members, the majority being refugee/immigrant families.

We are excited about the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center, and we hope you and your organization will be supportive, as well.

Best wishes of continued success.

Hoang K. Trán

August 26, 2004

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www.mn-japan.org

## Japan America Society of Minnesota

July 23, 2004

Satoru Asato, Board Chair Asian Pacific Cultural Center 1030 University Ave W St Paul MN 55104

Dear Mr. Asato,

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is pleased to endorse the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center. As a member-supported nonprofit organization we are very interested in seeing a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural center with shared facilities we could not support on our own. Our members will benefit from access to programs in these facilities, and we hope that the wider public would benefit as well.

Our mission is to bring the peoples of Japan and the United States closer together in mutual understanding, respect and cooperation. While we are proud of our current program offerings, we would like to offer more mission-related small group activities—language instruction, cooking classes, film screenings, and performing arts workshops—that may require specialized facilities. Relocating to the proposed center would allow us to pursue these programs, and would put us in the company of other nonprofits with similar missions.

Good luck with your capital campaign, and please let us know how we can help the project move forward.

Warm Regards,

Darryl W. Magree Executive Director

Jam L. M



### To Whom It May Concern:

Asian arts and culture are key elements in the fabric of the Twin Cities community. A center that brings together these cultural treasures will be a major addition to arts and economic development opportunities. MEDA is in full support of this concept and supports the project to build the Asian Pacific Cultural Center.

MEDA is a not for profit organization providing assistance to businesses that are owned and managed by ethnic minority residents of Minnesota. Unique among economic development organizations, MEDA's services are directed toward new or existing businesses whose owners are committed to generating long-term growth and profitability. These successful business owners in turn create living wage jobs in our communities.

We are excited about the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center, and we hope you and your organization will be supportive as well.

Sincerely, Grown Cheny H

Yvonne Cheung Ho President & CEO

# Asian Pages.

July 21, 2004

#### LETTER OF SUPPORT

Asian arts and culture are key elements in the fabric of the Twin Cities community. The Asian Pacific Cultural Center would being together these cultural treasures and would be a major addition to arts, community, and economic development opportunities. *Asian Pages* is in full support of this concept, and stands ready to utilize the new facility in a wide variety of ways.

Asian Pages is a biweekly, award-winning newspaper that has been serving the Asian community since 1990. Asian Pages celebrates the achievements of the Asian community and promotes a cultural bridge among the many different groups that the newspaper serves.

We plan to lease space in the new facility, as well as utilize it for meetings and functions for the community. We are very excited about the proposed Asian Pacific Cultural Center, and we hope you and your organization will be supportive as well. Thank you for your consideration of this important new facility.

Sincerely

C. Ting Insixiengmay

Teng Insixengman

Publisher

Hmong ABC 298 university ave w St. Paul, MN 55103 August 30, 2004

Dear Mr. Asato:

I've learned of your APCC project. I believe that it is a good project that will help enrich our Asian community.

I'm a business owner on University Avenue, and I hope to see such a new development taking place in the area.

I wish you successful in your project.

Sincerely you

wepheng Xiong