



Lic. Jesús Giles Sánchez
Presidente Municipal

Cuernavaca, Morelos March 18, 2008

Mr. Raymond Thomas Rybak, Jr
Honorable Mayor of Minneapolis, Minnesota .
United States Of America.

Dear R.T. Rybak.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our interest on became our sister city.

Our committee and I had agreed that Minneapolis, and our goal is first and foremost mutual benefit between Cuernavaca and Minneapolis sister city partner. It is our experience that having similar business and industry, schools and universities as well as cultural institutions and performing groups allow for many opportunities for exchange. We realize no one city will fit all the criteria perfectly. These are just benchmark in which to begin a dialogue of potential partnering.

Cuernavaca, Morelos, is often called *La ciudad de la eterna primavera* (The City of Eternal Springtime) Located in the central highlands of Mexico, about 50 miles south of Mexico City, Cuernavaca enjoys a year-round temperate climate that influenced Aztec kings, Spanish conquistadors and European monarchs to
Select it as a retreat for rest and relaxation.

Cuernavaca's economy, historically based on the agricultural production of the rural areas surrounding it, has expanded significantly in recent years. Foreign investment has brought many manufacturing jobs to Cuernavaca. Education is also an important aspect of Cuernavaca's economic and cultural life. It is



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home to the Autonomy University of Morelos, as well as to around 50 language schools where college students, executives, diplomats and others who what or need to learn Spanish can study for short or extended periods of time.

Cuernavaca is known as the world center for learning Spanish because of the quality and quantity of schools that offer language programs to foreigners from all over the world, principally from the USA.

Our vision for our community is to be the best city in the nation in which to live, work and raise a family. We have made it this mission to provide leadership that will inspire: high standards of excellence in the delivery of city services, a spirit of cooperation, pride and responsibility to achieve strong, safe and healthy neighborhoods; and a shared economic prosperity and enhanced quality of life. One of our strengths as Mayor has been the amazing transformation of our Historic Center area.

Come and enjoy our Historic Center on Cuernavaca.

Downtown Cuernavaca is the best way to see the historic buildings. Start at the Cortés Palace, with the adjoining craft plaza, then visit the main square known as the "zócalo", with the state government building (built in the 1950's) on the western side, then continuing along Hidalgo street you will get to the Cathedral (built in the early 16th century).

Across the street on Morelos in the Borda Garden, in 18th century construction. The Robert Brady Museum, with its art collection, is on Netzahualcoyotl Street in what were formerly the Bishop's quarters.

We have experienced growth both in the number of people working and living downtown. As the core of our community, it will be our placed high priority on making downtown accessible and attractive to everyone nearby.



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We are dedicated to the sister city mission of mutually beneficial exchange and to reaching out globally in the spirit of true collaboration and cooperation. The mission on Cuernavaca Sister Cities International is to encourage economic development, educational enhancement, touristic and cultural exchange by establishing and fostering relationships between Cuernavaca and each of its Sister Cities. Past programming has been as unique as each of our sister cities.

In looking at ideas for possible exchanges several thoughts come to mind; I believe a local government development project might be a rewarding endeavor. Other possibilities might include business collaborations, information exchanges in the area of sustainable development or workforce training and job creation particularly for youth, it would also be ideal to pursue collaborations in the area of arts, touristic and culture as well student and teacher projects.

We are having a big celebration by the end of the month on May and we are inviting you to come to Cuernavaca and both together could reestablish our Partnership Sister City.



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Cuernavaca also a tourist city have a lot to offer.

Cortés Palace

Cuauhnáhuac Museum

The Cortés Palace is the most famous building in Cuernavaca. It is one of the oldest civil constructions of the viceregal period in Mexico. (1521)

The Cathedral

The monastery of the Assumption was the first structure in the Cathedral complex. It was built by the Franciscans in the 16th century. Today it is a World Heritage site. Construction was begun in 1525 and ended in 1552

The tower was added to the temple in the 17th century. Although damaged by earthquakes, it has not lost its grandeur.

Borda Gardens

This complex was built as a residence for Don Manuel de la Borda's father. When Don José died in 1778 it was transformed into a botanical garden of fruit trees and ornamental plants from Asia and Europe.

Cuernavaca its also famous because of his museums.

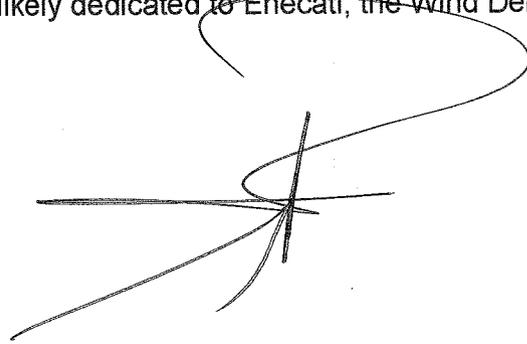
San Anton Waterfall

This spectacular 120 foot waterfall is reached by walking down a flight of stairs, carved into the basalt prism wall of the ravine. A group called 'Amigos del Salto de San Anton' was formed to help preserve the ravines that cut through Cuernavaca and whose ecosystem contributes to our temperate climate. The 'barrio' of San Anton is also known for its potters and nurseries.

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Teopanzolco Archaeological Zone

Teopanzolco was discovered during a Revolutionary battle in 1914, when Cuernavaca was occupied by Zapata's army. The tip of a pyramid was uncovered when a cannon was placed there. It is one of the most important archaeological zones in the region. Fourteen monuments, together with the Templos Gemelos pyramid (dedicated to Tláloc and Huitzilopochtli), are examples of pre-Hispanic architecture. Teopanzolco was built at the same time as the Templo Mayor of Tenochtitlán in Mexico City and is identical to this site, but with smaller dimensions. Note a circular formation, most likely dedicated to Ehecatl, the Wind Deity.





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I wish to gauge your interest in pursuing increased understanding between our two cities. In this letter as well in this package I have attached information about Cuernavaca.

For more information about Cuernavaca you can visit the following website:
www.cuernavaca.gob.mx

I would also be interested in any feedback that you may have for me regarding this request.

Certainly, should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Best regards

Lic. Jesús Giles Sánchez.
Mayor of Cuernavaca Morelos
Av. Morelos #278
Centro 62000
Cuernavaca, Morelos, México
Cuernavaca_piensa_en_ti@yahoo.com

Please feel to contact for all our possible encouran

Gabriela Dauguet
Vice-Secretary on Tourism
Av. Morelos #278 Centro
Cuernavaca, Morelos, México
Cuernavaca_piensa_en_ti@yahoo.com