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PRESS RELEASE



GOOD TO SEE YOU... Mayor Datuk Abidin Madingkir (right) with Andrew Kalamaris, the Trade Advisor to the Portland Branch of the Portland City Sister Association, during a courtesy visit in the City Hall on 15 June.

The duo met in Portland last year during the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Friendship Understanding (MOU) between Portland, Oregon and Kota Kinabalu in September last year.

Among others, the MOU is to encourage mutual cooperation between both cities to promote friendship, goodwill and cooperative efforts in the areas of environmental preservation, animal conservation, science, education and sustainable economic development and other areas.

Thanking the Mayor for meeting him, Kalamaris who was in the City for the second time described his visit this time around being very fruitful.

According to him, he has met many people and connections here in such a short visit and was looking forward to set up a charity business project between Portland and Kota Kinabalu.

Briefing the Mayor on his proposed charity business project, he said once implemented in Kota Kinabalu it would definitely benefit the local economy and create employment.

Now based in Kuala Lumpur and a Director of West Coast Craft, Kalamaris added that the profits from the proposed business project would be channelled to good causes in Sabah, such as the wildlife and to the Danau Girang Research Centre.

Kalamaris also said that he has met with the US Ambassador to Malaysia, Joseph Yun, who described his intended charity business venture in Kota Kinabalu, as getting the ball rolling for the MOU signed between between the city of Portland and Kota Kinabalu.

Madingkir thanked Kalamaris for meeting and advised the latter to write in officially on his proposed charity business project here, to enable him to bring it up for discussions with the other relevant agencies for considerations.

Ends.

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KOTA KINABALU CITY HALL