



For immediate release

Placentia and Plentzia to Become Sister Municipalities

Placentia to host delegation from namesake community in Basque Country

June 16, 2017

(Placentia, NL) The Town of Placentia will host a delegation from the City of Plentzia, Province of Biscay, Basque Country, Spain next week as both municipalities continue to explore their historical connections.

The highlight of the four-day visit by Mayor David Crestelo and members of the Plentzia Municipal Council will be a ceremony on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 where the towns will officially recognize their shared history and become affiliated as sister municipalities.

Since at least the sixteenth century, the Basque have been fostering a relationship with Placentia. The earliest documented reference to a voyage to Newfoundland by the Basque was in 1532. It would have been soon afterwards when fishermen from the Basque Country discovered and then gave Placentia its name.

“Plentzia and Placentia share a common ancestry and our towns wish to preserve and promote this shared history. Both towns believe there is potential for cooperation in the fields of education, economic development, tourism, fine arts and culture” said Placentia Mayor Wayne Power.

The exploration of the historical connections between the two towns has been pursued for several years. The visit by the Plentzia delegation to Placentia was preceded by a visit to Plentzia by Mayor Power and Councillor Noella Collins in October 2016.

The official twinning ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at the Placentia Bay Cultural Arts Centre, 17-21 Patterson Drive, Placentia. It will coincide with a visit to Placentia by the “In the Footsteps of Basque Whalers” sea cruise which is visiting several ports of call in Newfoundland and Labrador this month.

Members of the public and media representatives are invited to attend.

For more information contact:

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