



GREATER HICKORY INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

*Respecting diversity; embracing commonalities in
Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties*

<https://hickoryinternationalcouncil.com>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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GHIC Website is a Treasure-Trove of Information About Our Community

New website is a compilation of resources translated in 14 languages.

Hickory, NC—February XX, 2023— The Greater Hickory International Council website is a treasure-trove of information, events, and resources available in the 4 counties of *Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba*. It is created and maintained by the local council.

The website can be translated in the following languages by simply clicking the flag of the nation in the upper right-hand corner including: Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Hmong, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, and Spanish. According to Hani Nassar, the President of the Council, “Our mission of the Greater Hickory International Council is to promote goodwill, cultural awareness, cooperation, education, and mutual respect through partnerships and community events. This website is intended to be a useful resource, especially as it relates to serving the needs of international interests in the community.” When asked how the website was organized, he replied, “The resources are logically segmented by category to be easy to navigate.”

Arts and Music Organizations. Links to more than 30 local cultural organizations

Centro Latino. A compilation of resources for Spanish speaking residents

Community Support Groups: Links to resources for people with special needs.

Favorite Ethnic Restaurants: There is nothing scientific about this list. It is simply a list of where the members of the council like to eat.

Local Law Enforcement: Links to the 20+ law enforcement agencies in the Greater Hickory Metro Region.

North Carolina Consular Corps: Links to the diplomatic missions and consulates in the state, and where they are headquartered.

Greater Hickory Metro Region International Companies: A list of companies in the 4 County Region with headquarters in foreign countries. It provides links to 60 companies in 17 countries.

He added, “There is a calendar of local events related to international and cultural interests. These include events like the Great Discussions meetings, The Visiting Writers Series, Western Piedmont Sister Cities Association meetings, TED, and Performing Arts.”

He continued, “part of being a citizen of the world is awareness of what is happening in other parts of the country and the world. We have a special feature on our site that provides access to the front page of more than 500 newspapers in the USA, North America, Europe, South America, Oceania, Asia, Middle East, the Caribbean, and Africa. These are updated daily.”

The council is comprised of volunteers with international backgrounds and interests. The website is just one component of what we strive to provide. Its goals are:

- To recommend steps, processes, programs, or procedures which will improve communication and foster positive interaction between the international community and the Greater Hickory Metro Regions municipal governments.
- To make the Greater Hickory Metro Region friendly to international visitors, businesses, and residents.
- To recommend actions to improve cultural understanding and tolerance within the local communities.
- To work with the educational system, the local governments, and other organizations to promote the understanding of the international communities within the Greater Hickory Metro Region and to teach the interconnectedness of the world today.
- To promote both international investment in the Greater Hickory Metro Region and the expansion of local businesses through exports and investment abroad.

The council encourages members of the community to join and participate in its events. Any ethnic, cultural or international group is encouraged to provide information about their organizations and events to be included on the website.