

Abstract Template

Mrs Marie-Louise Rönmark
Mayor, City of Umeå

Organisation : City of Umeå, Sweden

Short description:

Umeå is one of Sweden and northern Europe's fastest growing cities. The average age of the 114 000 people who live in Umeå is 38, and the goal is for the city to reach the 200 000 figure before 2050 in a sustainable fashion. The city offers world-class art, drama, films, industries, music and research. It aims to attract more companies, break new construction records and, not least, will be the European Capital of Culture in 2014.

Presentation title: Building a sustainable city through curiosity and passion - the art of co-creation

Executive Summary of your Abstract:

Abstract:

Umeå will be the European Capital of Culture in 2014 with the overarching objective to promote human growth, strengthen the role of culture as a driving force for sustainable development and reinforce the international relations and dimensions of cultural life. The mission is to mobilise the energies and forces in Umeå and the northern region to tackle the most difficult tasks ahead, which are of relevance not only to Umeå but also to the wider world. We want to show what a city can do when it channels its collective spirit, creativity and inventiveness into bigger issues. We wish to change consumption and behaviour patterns through enticing people to participate in culture. Our aim is that by the end of 2014 the citizens of Umeå will have opened their minds to new cultural experiences, changed their preferences and live more sustainably.

We will present innovative working methods and experiences in the city to promote sustainable actions and lifestyles. Some good practices from Umeå include:

- * Sustainable travel in Umeå region (UBC Best environmental practice 2009) No idling taxi cabs
- * Business network for sustainable construction and maintenance in cold climates

Resumé:

Mrs. Marie-Louise Rönmark Mayor, City of Umeå
Chairman of the Board of Globalization and Research Executive Committee

First vice president of the Union of Baltic cities

The Union of the Baltic Cities is an international network consisting of all ten countries around the Baltic Sea involving more than 100 cities altogether. The purpose of the organization is to work for a social, economical and ecological sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region.

Recommended reading: www.umea.se and www.umea2014.se