

**Canada-DPRK Knowledge Partnership Program
(Director, Professor Kyung-Ae Park)
University of British Columbia**

DPRK Economic Study Tour to Indonesia, June 13-20, 2015

The Canada-DPRK Knowledge Partnership Program (KPP) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) has organized a DPRK Economic Study Tour to Indonesia taking place from June 13-20, 2015. The purpose of the Study Tour is to provide a core group of leading DPRK economic experts, scholars, and planners an opportunity to observe the successful trade, finance and economic sites in Indonesia and learn about Indonesian development strategies. During the Study Tour, the delegation will visit economic sites and interact with Indonesian scholars and local administrators in an active dialogue.

The Study Tour group will be composed of 14 members, including the President of the Korea Economic Development Association, scholars from the Kim Il Sung University and the University of National Economy, and officials from the Ministry of External Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, and the Foreign Ministry. This initiative is sponsored by the Indonesian Embassy in Pyongyang.

Since 2011, the KPP has been hosting six DPRK professors each year with expertise in business, economics, trade and finance for six-month periods of study at UBC. As part of the continued knowledge sharing initiatives of the KPP, the program has organized two successful conferences in Pyongyang in October 2013 and May 2014, which have explored various topics regarding economic and Special Economic Zone (SEZ) planning and best practices in management, touching on both macro-trends and more specific issues. The KPP also organized SEZ site visits throughout the DPRK in April 2014.

The conferences brought together 20 SEZ and development experts from seven different countries, as well as over 200 DPRK economic experts, scholars, SEZ specialists, and government officials to share their diverse experience on economic and SEZ planning, development, management, governance and growth. These were rare international conferences held in the DPRK and received unprecedented media coverage internationally.

The Study Tour is the next step in continuing knowledge sharing with the DPRK over economic issues. It will allow DPRK participants to connect the theoretical knowledge gained through the conferences with practical, hands-on experience.

About the Canada-DPRK Knowledge Partnership Program (KPP)

The Canada-DPRK Knowledge Partnership Program is designed to facilitate academic exchanges with DPRK for human capacity building through knowledge sharing. As part of a

long-term knowledge sharing exchange initiative, it has been hosting 6 DPRK professors each year since 2011 for six-month periods of study at UBC. Now in its 5th year, the KPP is the first and the only North American program to educate DPRK university professors for long term periods in economics and business fields. The KPP also aims to facilitate knowledge sharing with the DPRK through conferences, seminars and focussed workshops that bring together international scholars and their DPRK counterparts to participate in meaningful and effective exchange of ideas and views. The KPP was established at the University of British Columbia in 2010 with the initiative of Professor Kyung-Ae Park who has been a specialist on DPRK politics for many years as well as a key facilitator of track-II diplomacy between Canada and the DPRK. She currently serves as Director of the KPP program.