

Mankato First Fair Trade Town in Minnesota  
Issue No.7, July 1, 2015

[View this email in your browser](#)



Stay Connected



Visit [MAFTTI.org](http://MAFTTI.org)

Donate through MAFTTI's website

---

## 9TH INTERNATIONAL FAIR TRADE TOWNS CONFERENCE



Over the weekend of July 4-5 **MAFTTI Chair Paul Renshaw** will be attending this annual gathering.

Four other representatives of the US Fair Trade Towns movement are also making tracks to Bristol, England from the national Fair Trade Towns office in Oakland, CA and from Media, PA, the first Fair Trade Town in the USA.

Hosting the conference is the **Bristol Fairtrade Network**, celebrating the 10th anniversary of this port city in south-west England becoming a 'Fair Trade City'.



This year's conference is being held in the **EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL** for 2015. A year-long program of events is under way in Bristol that highlights many different approaches to the critical idea of 'sustainability'.

Although Bristol's population is over ten times that of Mankato and has a markedly different history (including a central role in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in the 17th and 18th centuries) the [Green Capital](#) website offers lots to think about and many ideas for practical action by people of all ages and interests anywhere.

The theme of the conference is FAIR TRADE FOR SUSTAINABILITY. No surprise there.

*"Demonstrating the strong relationship between Fair Trade and the green agenda, some of the key leaders in the movement, alongside a Fairtrade Gold miner from Africa, will provide new insights into how Fair Trade works to protect the environment. This includes support provided to farmers to enable them to adapt to the effects of climate change and develop sustainable farming methods, as well as analysis of the post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals."*

**Bristol Mayor George Ferguson** is an architect, a keen cyclist, and strongly backs the agenda. He said, *"I am absolutely delighted that Bristol has been chosen to host the International Fairtrade Towns Conference in 2015. The city has a long history of supporting ethical and sustainable trade.... something which I fervently support."*



For more information go to the [Bristol Fairtrade Network](#).

[HERE](#) is the Conference program.

---

**July 11 NORTH MANKATO FUN DAYS PARADE**

MAFTTI has made a point of appearing in the **Fun Days Parade** for the last six years. Aboard a vintage Ford truck will be a 'floating exhibition' of images of Fair Trade products.

Human interest is provided by 'Carmen Miranda', played this year by Samantha Scholl after five consecutive appearances by Amy Friedman.

Escorting the float, friends of MAFTTI will carry placards extolling the virtues of Fair Trade.

**If you are free, willing and able between 10:30a.m. and 1:00p.m., let Jane Dow know that you can come and walk along with MAFTTI on the parade. Join the tradition!**

Contact Jane at 625-5092 or at [janedow@hickorytech.net](mailto:janedow@hickorytech.net)



MAFTTI in 2010



MAFTTI in 2014



## Minnesota Conference

United Church of Christ

CONGRATULATIONS to First Congregational/UCC in Mankato for promoting a [Fair Trade Resolution](#) at the Annual Meeting of the UCC Minnesota Conference, June 14-15, 2015.

This is a deliberately short Newsletter as the June issue was only circulated two weeks ago. The next edition will be in six weeks time, in mid-August, and feature some feedback from the International Fair Trade Towns Conference.

Copyright © 2015 MAFTTI, All rights reserved.  
MAFTTI Newsletter No.7, July 1, 2015

Our mailing address is:  
[maftti@gmail.com](mailto:maftti@gmail.com)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)