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The Hague, 30 October 2023

Dear Mayor Loohuis,

I would like to once again take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and support for the enduring partnership of the Dutch municipality of Hoogeveen and its Slovak counterpart, the city of Martin, which has been thriving for more than three decades. Over these 32 years, the collaboration between our communities has blossomed into numerous impactful projects, fostering meaningful connections among our citizens. This enduring friendship, forged on mutual respect and shared values, has proven to be an invaluable asset in today's ever-changing global landscape.

The world has witnessed significant transformations since the inception of our partnership in October 1990. Both the Slovak Republic and the Netherlands have evolved into steadfast allies within the European Union and the North Atlantic Alliance. Recent events, notably the unwarranted aggression by Russia against Ukraine, have underscored the strength of our bond. I deeply appreciate the military support extended by the Netherlands to Slovakia during this challenging time.

The unprovoked conflict initiated by Russia serves as a stark reminder of the importance of close collaboration among free, democratic, and like-minded nations. It is imperative that our cooperation intensifies across all possible realms. Therefore, I would like to urge the Municipality of Hoogeveen no to waver in its dedication to nurturing relations with its Slovak partner city, Martin.

The energy and commitment already put by both sides have contributed significantly to the flourishing cooperation between our communities.

In light of the evolving global landscape and the achievements thus far, it is crucial to explore new horizons for decentralized cooperation between our nations. The existing foundation should serve as a robust platform for addressing various challenges. To this end, I would like to assure you that the Slovak Embassy is ready to offer its steadfast support to the continuation of the partnership to pave the way for even more fruitful collaboration between our communities, reinforcing the enduring friendship between Hoogeveen and Martin.

Sincerely,



Juraj MACHÁČ  
Ambassador of the Slovak Republic  
to the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Addressee

Mr. Karel Loohuis  
Mayor of Municipality of Hoogeveen  
Hoogeveen  
The Netherlands

Copy

Prof. MUDr. Ján Danko  
Mayor of City of Martin  
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