

Great Wall International Cultural Village Dedication Ceremony

2 May 2010

Tianxianyu Village of Bohai Township
Huairou District, Beijing, China

Translation of Chinese Remarks by James H. Spear, Jr.

Beijing Municipal Party Standing Committee Member Niu Youcheng, Beijing City Leaders, Huairou Party Secretary Wang Haiping, and Other Leaders of Huairou District and Bohai Township, Guests, and Neighbors, I think I am speaking here today in several capacities.

First, I am representing the partners of The Schoolhouse and our other restaurants and lodgings in Mutianyu and Beigou Villages.

Second, I am representing my friends and clients who have leased homes in these villages. Together, we outsiders, Chinese and foreign, have invested over Rmb 70 million in private money toward establishing businesses and renovating homes here.

Third, and most importantly, I am here as an honorary citizen. Sixteen years ago when Mr. Li Fengquan introduced me to his beautiful village under China's Great Wall I never dreamed that I would actually come to live here. As an outsider and a foreigner I never dreamed that I would be so welcomed. To live in a small community and become a small part of it has changed my life.

As an honorary citizen here I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our farsighted government leaders. They have watched and supported "The Schoolhouse Model." These leaders resolved to invest in the infrastructure of these four villages, creating this unique tourism destination.

Even with this wonderful helping hand, our work is only just begun. I promise we will continue to work hard, try to be good honorary citizens and good neighbors, and continue to contribute to the great success of this Great Wall International Cultural Village. Thank you all!