

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2012-004

**CREATING THE “HARONG KAN LITERATURA
ASIN MGA TATARAMON BIKOLNON”**

WHEREAS, Section 16 of the Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the General Welfare clause of the Local Government Code, states that “Every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare”;

WHEREAS, the same provision mandates that “within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture”;

WHEREAS, as “Heart of Bikol,” Naga has been the center of trade, education and culture in the Bicol Region since the Spanish colonial era.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN G. BONGAT, Mayor of the City of Naga, by virtue of the power vested in me do hereby ordain:

Section 1. Declaration of Policy. The promotion of culture and the arts is hereby declared a priority of this Administration, pursuant to its “Maogmang Naga” vision that seeks the creation of “a vibrant city of history, music, culture and arts” as one of its foundational elements.

Section 2. The “Harong kan Literatura asin mga Tataramon Bikolnon.” There shall be created a “Harong kan Literatura asin mga Tataramon Bikolnon,” hereinafter referred to as the HLTB, in the Raul S. Roco Library that will seek to

- a) promote the development of Bikol literature in its various forms, including but not limited to poetry, fiction, drama, and essay, as well as translations;
- b) serve as repository of all works, published or unpublished, by Bikol or non-Bikol writers writing on or about Bikol, regardless of language, form and format;
- c) support the documentation, publication and distribution of new literary works, preferably in the Bikol languages, and other literary activities; and
- d) spearhead programs, projects and activities that will promote literacy and develop a culture of reading in local communities of the Bicol Region.

Section 3. Composition of the HLTB. The Mayor shall serve as honorary chair of the “Harong kan Literatura asin mga Tataramon Bikolnon.”

Members of the HLTB shall include six representatives elected from the ranks of local Bikol writers and their organizations. The City Vice Mayor, the City Planning and Development Coordinator; the head of the City Publication and External Relations Office

(CPERO); and the librarian of the Raul S. Roco Library shall also serve as ex-officio members of the HLTB.

To run the day-to-day affairs of the HLTB, the Mayor shall appoint an executive director elected by local Bikol writers from within their ranks.

Section 4. Operations. To realize its goals, the HLTB shall formulate its own rules and regulations, and develop its own plans, programs and activities, including a writer-in-residence (WIR) scheme for Bikol writers, which will become effective upon approval by majority of its members.

Its operations shall be guided by the principles of transparency, accountability and participation, with the end view of attaining long-term sustainability for its key endeavors.

Section 5. External Linkages. The HLTB shall pursue partnerships as a key strategy to realize its goals. In this regard, it will coordinate with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) in accessing grants and funding assistance from said institution, as well as other national and international organizations dedicated to the promotion of arts and culture.

Section 6. Funding. An initial outlay of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00), chargeable against the Non-Office budget of the City Government, shall be allocated to the HLTB to defray its operations. At least 80% of its subsequent annual outlays, sourced from the city government's budget and other sources, shall be allocated to support the publication of new Bikol literary works and the conduct of other literary activities.

Section 7. Separability Clause. If for any reason any section or provision of this Executive Order is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional the remaining sections shall not be affected by such declaration.

Section 8. Repealing Clause. All executive orders, memoranda, and other issuances or parts thereof that are in conflict with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 12th day of March, 2012 at Naga City, Philippines.

JOHN G. BONGAT
City Mayor

Attested by:

FLORENCIO T. MONGOSO, JR. CSEE
Department Head II and Acting City Administrator