Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – January 22, 2019

REPORTS

Item No. 4 2018 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the report of the Winnipeg Public Service be received as information.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: 2018 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
R. Forgues	M. Jack	N/A	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the Indigenous Relations Division continued to work in collaboration with internal and external partners on the 5 municipally-related TRC Calls to Actions by:

- ✓ Conducting ongoing research, consultation and information sessions;
- ✓ Providing opportunities for employees and citizens to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs;
- ✓ Gave advice and guidance to departments to embed cultural components in civic events and provided an Indigenous lens concerning day to day business;
- ✓ Continued to provide experiential learning opportunities to employees on the history of Indigenous peoples including the history and legacy of residential schools;
- ✓ Continued to provide other learning opportunities for employees through educational exhibits and Inspirational speakers on topics such as Reconciliation, Treaties and UNDRIP.
- ✓ Worked with other Manitoba cemeteries to improve information sharing and accesses to services and supports; and,
- ✓ Processed records that led to the exploration of Indigenous histories in the City, and of civic policies, programs, and decisions that affected Indigenous communities within the City.

Next steps include:

- ✓ To complete a baseline report that highlights successes and gaps as it relates to UNDRIP and to devise a communication plan to disperse this information internally.
- ✓ To canvas responses to the Doctrine of Discovery and to create a strategic action plan for 2019.
- ✓ To reach the goal of providing experiential learning opportunities to 10,000 City of Winnipeg employees on the history of Aboriginal peoples including the history and legacy of residential schools by the end of 2019 and to create a strategic plan for continuing educational opportunities.
- ✓ To review civic by-laws to include Traditional burial practices at City cemeteries.
- ✓ To reissue online and in print the publication: Indigenous Peoples and History: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives.

- ✓ To circulate and promote the newly revised publication: Indigenous Peoples and Records: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives (formerly Indigenous Peoples and History: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives).
- ✓ To complete a master inventory of photographs held by the Archives that document Indigenous peoples and communities in Winnipeg.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

At its February 24, 2016 meeting, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

- That in support of the implementation of the five Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action related to municipalities, the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:
    A. Continue current activities of the City, which have no cost implications that relate to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.
    B. Investigate the proposed actions outlined in this report in support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and bring forward to Council for consideration, any initiatives or actions requiring incremental human resources or financial resources.
    C. Investigate additional measures that could be taken by the City to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.
    D. Report back to Council in December 2016 and as requested thereafter, with a status update on the activities and actions taken by the Public Service in support of these recommendations.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications arising from receiving this report as information. This report summarizes the actions taken by the Public Service since its December 13, 2017 report to support the implementation of the five Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action relating to municipalities.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada summary final report released in June 2015 identified 94 Calls to Action aimed at redressing the legacy of residential schools and advancing the process of reconciliation in Canada. Five Calls to Action relating to municipal governments include actions for: Public Service Education; Archival records; Cemeteries and burial sites of residential school children; concepts related to the Doctrine of Discovery; and, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities recognized the significant work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and called upon municipalities to work toward implementation

of five Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action relating to municipal governments.

In August 2015, a Public Service working group was directed to review the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action in the context of activities already underway to support implementation of the five Calls to Action relating to municipalities, as well as potential new activities to undertake to accomplish the intent of the Calls to Action.

In February 2016, the public service was directed to continue with current activities that supported the TRC's Calls to Action; investigate proposed actions included in the report, and investigate additional measures that could be taken by the City to support the TRC Calls to Action. In December 2016, the Public Service was directed to provide a year-end status update on its activities and actions to support the TRC's Calls to Action on an annual basis.

In December 2016, an Administrative Report was submitted to council to provide a year-end status update on the activities and actions taken by the Public Service in support of the TRC Calls to Action as directed by Council in February 2016.

In December 2017, a report was submitted to Council identifying actions taken by the Public Service to support the five Calls to Action such as meeting with external and internal partners to collaborate on the Calls to Action and identify action plans that will guide the work for 2018.

This is a summary of the actions taken to date since December 2017:

#43 UNDRIP - *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.*

- ✓ The working group has completed its internal review of the City of Winnipeg Indigenous-specific initiatives. A baseline report identifying success and gaps is in draft.
- ✓ On December 13, 2017, a Lunch and Learn Video was shown of University of Victoria's Professor John Borrows presenting on Canada's Indian Act and its impact on Indigenous governance structures. Eleven employees from 6 different departments attended.

Next Steps Include:

- ✓ Ongoing review and finalizing the baseline report to identify success and gaps
- ✓ Develop a communication strategy to share with stakeholders within the civic system in addressing UNDRIP, as it relates to municipal jurisdiction.

Other actions taken by the Indigenous Relations Division (IRD) and in collaboration with other departments supporting Call to Action #43 include:

- ✓ In identifying smudge-friendly City spaces, a working group visited City of Winnipeg facilities to assess the requirements for accommodating smudge and Pipe ceremonies.
- ✓ IRD has worked with Materials Management on the Sustainable Procurement Project Charter and waste reduction initiatives, the Climate Change Action Plan and Fuel Usage, and the 2019 Sustainable Procurement Initiative Action Plan.
- ✓ The Shoal Lake Economic Development Committee supported training, internship, or work experience opportunities for Shoal Lake band members within the civic system.

Other Next Steps Include:

- ✓ Implement a communication plan to inform people of the designated smudge-friendly City spaces and how to schedule and accommodate these ceremonies.

#47 Doctrine of Discovery - *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts.*

- ✓ The Legal Services Department has conducted research as set forth in the Call to Action, including federal and provincial legislation that may impact modification of City of Winnipeg policies and bylaws, in order to identify requirements to make any modifications. These activities included exploring these historical concepts from an Indigenous perspective.
- ✓ The Legal Services Department is also working in collaboration with the Indigenous Relations Division to identify subject matter experts who can provide assistance in reforming City of Winnipeg policies and by-laws, including exploration of these historical concepts from an Indigenous perspective.
- ✓ On November 22, 2018, Dr. Brenda Gunn, Associate Professor of Law at University of Manitoba, was invited to provide insight into the Doctrine of Discovery as it relates to the Municipal Level. Fourteen people involved in leading the TRC Calls to Action attended the education session.

Next Steps Include:

- ✓ Canvassing of responses to this Call to Action in other municipalities is being undertaken.
- ✓ Create a strategic action plan for 2019.

#57 Training - *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.*

- ✓ As of November 2018, over 7500 employees have participated in education opportunities through scheduled and department-requested sessions.
- ✓ The WAPSO Leadership Series provides educational opportunities, including Indigenous-related topics, for the organization's leaders, in order to better understand their roles and responsibilities. Indigenous-related topics include:
    - On March 2018, Dr. Ry Moran, Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, presented on 5 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action related to municipalities, approximately 68 public service leaders participated.
    - On June 2018, Loretta Ross, Treaty Commissioner of Manitoba presented on the Manitoba Treaties, approximately 60 Public Service leaders participated.
    - On September 2018, Dr. Brenda Gunn, Associate Professor of Law at University of Manitoba, presented on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), 59 Public Service leaders participated.
    - On November 30, 2018, Dr. Keven Lamoureux, Associate Vice President of Indigenous Affairs, Indigenous UWinnipeg presented and approximately 60 public service leaders attended.
- ✓ IRD continued to provide moccasin making workshops and spring, summer, fall Solstice ceremonies where provided.
- ✓ The Assiniboia Residential School (ARS) Exhibit was hosted by Planning, Property and Development Department at their Garry Street location from September to November with more than 200 people visiting the exhibit. Another ARS Exhibit was hosted at River

Heights Library for public viewing for the month of October 2018 with 75 people visiting the exhibit.

- ✓ Red Road Lodge, a partner to Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord, created a travelling exhibit community art project designed to create an environment of healing for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities through public art displays. The Story Posts Project Exhibit was displayed at 510 Main Street, City Hall, Susan A. Thompson Building for September and October, 2018, with 179 people visiting the exhibit.

Next Steps Include:

- ✓ To reach the goal of 10,000 City of Winnipeg employees trained by the end of 2019
- ✓ To create a strategic plan for continuing educational opportunities.
- ✓ To coordinate reconciliation topics to be rolled out in the WAPSO Leadership Series.
- ✓ To identify additional host locations for the Indigenous Exhibits.

#75 Cemeteries - *We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children.*

- ✓ An identification process has been updated so that City cemeteries can work with other Manitoba cemeteries in identifying burial sites without having to re-direct families.
- ✓ Cemeteries designed a form process to enable City Cemeteries in sharing information with other Manitoba cemeteries in order to assist families with a one-stop service where ever possible. Families/clients will be able to search for information online, by telephone or by completing a form.
- ✓ Research has been conducted on what other cities and cemeteries are doing for identification processes, commemoration processes and processes for families of buried residential school students that include obtaining access to services from other levels of government.

Next Steps Include:

- ✓ A review of by-laws to include Traditional ways for burials at City cemeteries is currently undertaken.

#77 Archives - *We call upon provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.*

- ✓ The Archives and Record Control Branch has prioritized processing of record series that led themselves to the exploration of Indigenous histories in the City, and of civic policies, programs, and decisions that affected Indigenous communities within the City. This included the identification of resources required to undertake appraisal and description projects.
- ✓ Completion of work on a master inventory of photographs held by the Archives that document Indigenous peoples and communities in Winnipeg. An early result of this work was the identification of photographs used in a small exhibit on the history of parades in Winnipeg. Among other subjects, the exhibit looked at past inclusion of Indigenous peoples in parades and other celebratory events. The exhibit was on display in the Local History Room (Millennium Library) from November 7, 2017 to January 17, 2018.

- ✓ Implemented new procedures for reporting on records that document Indigenous peoples and communities when record series are processed – during processing of the records of the Standing Committee on Legislation and Reception, 1895-1971, the Archives identified records that could potentially be used in exhibits exploring changing perceptions of the North-West Resistance, the Metis Nation, and the actions of the Canadian government during that period.

Next Steps Include:

- ✓ Reissue online and in print the publication: Indigenous Peoples and History: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives.
- ✓ Circulate and promote the newly-revised publication: Indigenous Peoples and Records: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives (formerly Indigenous Peoples and History: A Guide to Research at the City of Winnipeg Archives).

Other Indigenous Relations Division strategies supporting TRC Calls to Action

Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak, City's Indigenous Youth Strategy – Calls to Action 7, 23, 92
This grant program provides resources to youth-serving agencies to deliver employment development and recreation programs, and to civic departments to create opportunities for Indigenous youth such as internships, training programs, career camps, summer work placements, and post-secondary scholarships and community leadership through scholarship programs.

Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord
Now that this initiative has its own reporting requirement, progress in this area will be identified through an annual report to Council each June.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** November 29, 2018

Project Name:

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

Comments:
There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Original signed by T. Yanchishyn
Tanis Yanchishyn
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

Legal Services Department (as to legal issues)
Archives and Records Control Branch
Planning, Property and Development Department

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

Quality of Life, 03-1 Opportunity:

Direction 1 – Strive to use mandated municipal services areas, such as libraries and recreation, as opportunities to foster strong cross-cultural relations that contribute to healthy communities.

Direction 2 – Provide equitable access to municipal programs, services, and facilities.

Direction 3 – Work with community partners to foster an inclusive and equitable community.

Direction 4 – Work within municipal service areas as a collaborator on poverty reduction.

Direction 5 – Acknowledge that Indigenous Winnipeggers bring a diverse richness of cultures, traditions, languages, teachings, values, skills, and perspectives to our city.

Direction 6 – Foster opportunities for Indigenous Winnipeggers, particularly youth, to obtain meaningful employment by building on current civic practices, processes and community partnerships.

SUBMITTED BY

Department:
Division: Indigenous Relations
Prepared by: R. Forgues
Date: December 3, 2018