Forging the Partnership

Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region

March 1, 2019

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

FIRST NATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION, INC.

AND

MUNICIPALITIES OF THE WINNIPEG METROPOLITAN REGION, INC.

INTRODUCTION

The undersigned First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc. (the First Nations and Municipalities or vice versa) have been meeting in the Collaborative Leadership Initiative (CLI) exploring how they might work together in a spirit of reconciliation to achieve common goals.

The Municipalities and First Nations acknowledge their unique and evolving government-to-government relationship and the need to work within the framework for reconciliation provided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The First Nations and the Municipalities agree to continue to work together in the Collaborative Leadership Initiative (CLI) on the basis of mutual respect, recognition, co-operation and responsibility to achieve common goals in agreed areas of cooperation.

The Municipalities and First Nations understand that as governments they each occupy unique jurisdictional space, and have historically different relationships with other international, national, regional, and local governments. They recognize the value in implementing their authorities collaboratively where mutually agreed and now wish to formalize a government-to-government relationship through a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Memorandum of Understanding will be known as the *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc.*

INTENT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The intent of this Memorandum of Understanding is to create a long-lasting and durable political agreement between the First Nations and Municipalities. This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to guide the deepening of the relationships among the Municipalities and First Nations in trying to find areas of further collaboration and cooperation.

PRINCIPLES OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The Municipalities and First Nations agree that the following will guide them as they work together:

- The framework for reconciliation set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- Recognition and respect for the diversity of cultures, history and traditions among the people of Manitoba and respect that different governments may have unique political and policy priorities. Agreement may not always be achievable on all issues discussed.
- Interactions between parties based on constructive collaboration, a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect are an opportunity to deepen their understanding of each other's views and maximize benefits to the people served by each government.
- Commitment to working together to make progress and achieve outcomes on matters of mutual interest.
- Commitment to working together to achieve a respectful, strong and meaningful government-to-government relationship, with effective communication and information sharing.
- Recognition that bilateral arrangements and agreements may be appropriate in order to facilitate cooperation between respective governments.

PURPOSE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The purpose of *the Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc.* is to enhance the relationship between the First Nations and the Municipalities and provide a regional approach through which their governments can work together. Areas of regional cooperation and discussion will include, but not be limited to:

- Economic development
- Service sharing
- Land and water stewardship
- Circular economy and waste
- Infrastructure
- Technology
- Treaty land entitlement
- Government issues, including the making of further agreements
- Areas of duplication, overlap, potential harmonization and compatibility within their respective areas of jurisdiction.
- Any other areas of mutual interest identified by the First Nations and the Municipalities.

LEGAL EFFECT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Nothing in this *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc.* creates legal obligations.

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall constrain the respective governments from exercising their powers and responsibilities, nor impose any financial obligation.

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding prevents the First Nations and the Municipalities from participating in other intergovernmental processes or agreements.

TERM OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc.* shall be in effect for a period of four (4) years from the date of signing.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be periodically renewed, reviewed and/or amended by agreement of the signatories, or a participating First Nation or Municipality may withdraw, upon at least 60 days in advance written notice being given to the other participating First Nations and the Municipalities.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Meetings of the First Nations and the Municipalities

There shall be a minimum of two meetings a year between the Mayors, Reeves and Chiefs of the First Nations and the Municipalities.

In advance of the meeting, the First Nations and the Municipalities will reach agreement on an agenda that has been developed by CLI personnel. Where applicable, briefing materials, reports or other documents will be shared with each other.

Following each meeting, the First Nations and the Municipalities will agree upon a joint summary of outcomes and/or commitments to be distributed to all members.

Meetings of CLI Personnel

CLI personnel will work with officials from First Nations and the Municipalities to develop a work plan in support of the meetings to ensure that meeting outcomes are fulfilled, where applicable.

As appropriate, the First Nations and the Municipalities of the CLI may create operational subcommittees of their senior officials from the First Nations and the Municipalities to implement the direction of CLI Mayors, Reeves and Chiefs.

Information-Sharing

The First Nations and the Municipalities agree to share information with respect to matters of mutual concern in an open and timely manner. The Municipalities and the First Nations will adhere to protocols for effective communication between governments.

Protocols for communication among the CLI personnel, Mayors, Reeves and Chiefs and their governments will be developed. Protocols include each First Nation and Municipality notifying the other of upcoming activities, regional or local visits and/or emergent issues of concern.

SIGNATORIES OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Municipalities of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc.* is signed by the Chiefs of First Nations of the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc. and Mayors and Reeves of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Inc. on this 1st day of March, 2019 at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site, RM of St. Andrews, Manitoba.

Grand Chief Jerry Daniels
Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc.

Chief Craig Alexander
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation

Chief Karen Batson
Pine Creek First Nation

Chief Norman Bone
Keeseekowenin Ojibway Nation

Chief Viola Eastman
Canupawakpa Dakota Nation

Chief Derrick Henderson
Sagkeeng First Nation

Chief Glenn Hudson
Peguis First Nation

Chief David LeDoux
Gambler First Nation

Chief Dennis Meeches
Long Plain First Nation

Chief Francine Meeches
Swan Lake First Nation

Chief Lance Roulette
Sandy Bay First Nation

Chief Deborah Smith
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

Rodney Burns – Elder
Witness

Stan McKay – Elder
Witness

City Clerk Marc Lemoine
The City of Winnipeg

Reeve Brad Erb
RM of Macdonald

Reeve Frances Smee
RM of Rosser

Mayor Justin Bohemier
RM of Taché

Mayor Brian Bowman
The City of Winnipeg

Mayor Cheryl Christian
RM of West St. Paul

Mayor Chris Ewen
RM of Ritchot

Reeve Tiffany Fell
RM of Springfield

Mayor Debbie Fiebelkorn
RM of St. Clements

Mayor Rick Gamble
Village of Dunnottar

Mayor Shelley Hart
RM of East St. Paul

Mayor Clive Hinds
Town of Stonewall

Mayor Larry Johannson
City of Selkirk

Mayor John Mauseth
RM of Headingley

Mayor Joy Sul
RM of St. Andrews

Reeve Wes Taplin
RM of Rockwood

Reeve Rick Van Wyk
RM of St. François Xavier