Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – June 16, 2021

Moved by Councillor

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

ADDENDUM REPORTS

Item No. 15 Re-Naming Bishop Grandin Boulevard

His Worship Mayor Bowman has submitted the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee for consideration:

WHEREAS the discovery of the remains of 215 children buried in an unmarked grave at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School has horrified and galvanized the nation. If Canadians did not previously understand the impact of the Indian Residential School System on Canada's Indigenous peoples, this traumatic revelation provides more proof of generational harm inflicted by both the federal government and churches.

AND WHEREAS Bishop Vital-Justin Grandin, a Roman Catholic bishop and priest who was an architect of Canada's racist Indian Residential School System, encouraged the federal government to expand it in 1880 with the aim of assimilating Indigenous, Metis and Inuit children into western culture by forcibly removing them from their families.

AND WHEREAS while the immeasurable harm caused by residential schools cannot be undone, the truth of what occurred needs to be understood and one measure the City can take to honour that truth is to re-name Bishop Grandin Boulevard.

AND WHEREAS the Chair of the Welcoming Winnipeg Committee of Community Members has shared the reflections of the Committee which unreservedly believes the Bishop Grandin Boulevard ought to be re-named.

AND WHEREAS as advised Welcoming Winnipeg Committee of Community Members the new name should come from the Indigenous community, for it to come from the City would be repeating the colonial practices of the past.

AND WHEREAS input on the new name should be sought from residential school survivors, elders, knowledge keepers, as well as Indigenous governments, and community organizations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee place on record its support for the renaming of Bishop Grandin Boulevard.

2. That the Indigenous Relations Division be directed to engage in consultations with Indigenous people, including but not limited to residential school survivors, elders, knowledge keepers, as well as Indigenous governments and community organizations to bring forward their proposal for re-naming Bishop Grandin Boulevard to a name which honours Indigenous experience, culture and history.

3. That upon completion of the consultations outlined in Recommendation 2, the Winnipeg Public Service report back with a recommendation for the renaming of Bishop Grandin Boulevard, in accordance with the Street Name By-law.