Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – June 15, 2022

REPORTS

Item No. 20 Indigenous Symbolic Items in the Council Chamber

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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

1. That flower beadwork, Métis Sash, and small Red River Cart are commissioned and procured through the Manitoba Métis Federation and permanently added to the Winnipeg Council Chamber and that Métis leadership is invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the items displayed.

2. That an Eagle Staff, a sacred symbol, is prepared by Elder David Blackmith to permanently reside in the Winnipeg Council Chamber and that Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak leadership and Elders are invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the item displayed honouring the Nehiyawak (Cree) Nation, including Elder guidance to identify the Eagle Staff carrier(s) and their responsibilities.

3. That a carving gifted by Treaty One Knowledge Keeper Ray Mason, medicine bundle, and small plaque be permanently added to the Council Chamber and that Treaty One Nation leadership and Elders are invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the items displayed.

4. That Indigenous Relations continues collaboration with the Winnipeg Public Service to ensure any recommendations align with the historical designation of the Council Building, Heritage Permit requirements, and the City Clerk's Department on protocol related matters.

5. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

The Chairperson called Councillor Gilroy to the Chair in order to move the following motion:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,

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

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

His Worship Mayor Bowman resumed the Chair.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Indigenous Symbolic Items in the Council Chamber

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
C. Sveinson	M. Jack	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In October 2021, Indigenous Relations began to notify Indigenous governments and representative organizations of the City's intention to engage and collaborate for the purpose of obtaining their recommendations involving the new and permanent addition of Anishinaabe, Dakota, Cree, Métis, and Inuit symbolic items in the Winnipeg Council Chamber.

In Winnipeg, changes in recent years have brought great entrepreneurial, scientific, and cultural achievement, and the beginnings of what is intended to be a transformative journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. The current state of society has also brought urgent calls for reflection, equity, and change from the status quo, globally and locally, that can't be ignored.

The Winnipeg Indigenous Accord is one example of the City's commitment to building an ongoing process of reconciliation in Winnipeg, a process that is based on the establishment and maintenance of mutually respectful partnerships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit governments, organizations, and individuals.

The Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History policy aligns at a municipal level with Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action #43 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), particularly Article 15:

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.

2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

From November 2021 to May 2022, Indigenous Relations initiated and held ongoing discussions with representatives from Treaty One Nation, Dakota Nations of Manitoba, Tunngasugit, Manitoba Métis Federation, and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, including Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

This report contains recommendations from the Manitoba Métis Federation, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, and Treaty One Nation identifying items to permanently add to the Council Chamber.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That flower beadwork, Métis Sash, and small Red River Cart are commissioned and procured through the Manitoba Métis Federation and permanently added to the Winnipeg Council Chamber and that Métis leadership is invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the items displayed.

2. That an Eagle Staff, a sacred symbol, is prepared by Elder David Blackmith to permanently reside in the Winnipeg Council Chamber and that Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak leadership and Elders are invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the item displayed honouring the Nehiyawak (Cree) Nation, including Elder guidance to identify the Eagle Staff carrier(s) and their responsibilities.

3. That a carving gifted by Treaty One Knowledge Keeper Ray Mason, medicine bundle, and small plaque be permanently added to the Council Chamber and that Treaty One Nation leadership and Elders are invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the items displayed.

4. That Indigenous Relations continues collaboration with the Winnipeg Public Service to ensure any recommendations align with the historical designation of the Council Building, Heritage Permit requirements, and the City Clerk's Department on protocol related matters.

5. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On October 28, 2021, Council concurred in the notice of motion of the Executive Policy Committee and directed that the Winnipeg Public Service, led by the Indigenous Relations Division:

A. Engage with Indigenous governments and stakeholders on how best to reflect Indigenous history and culture through the permanent addition of a symbolic item or items displayed in Council Chamber to honour the land on which the City of Winnipeg is situated; and

B. Consult the Planning, Property and Development Department to ensure any recommendations align with the historical designation of the Council Building and the City Clerk's Department on protocol related matters.

C. Report back within 90 days.

On January 27, 2022, Council granted an extension of time of up to 60 days for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the matter.

On April 28, 2022, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That a large land map of the Dakota Nations traditional territory be framed and mounted permanently in the Winnipeg Council Chamber and that Dakota Nation leaders and Elders be invited to the Council Chamber involving ceremonial protocols and presentation of the symbolic item.

2. That a sealskin and traditional Qulliq oil lamp, portraying Inuit culture and used by Inuit for millennia, be permanently added to the Winnipeg Council Chamber, that the Winnipeg Public Service continue ongoing collaboration with Tunngasugit to obtain the items, and that Tunngasugit leaders and Elders be invited to the Council Chamber for ceremonial protocols and presentation of the symbolic items.

3. That Indigenous Relations continues engagement and collaboration with Treaty One Nation, Manitoba Métis Federation, and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak to obtain their recommendations to permanently add Anishinaabe, Métis, and Cree symbolic items within the Winnipeg Council Chamber.

4. That Indigenous Relations continues collaboration with the Winnipeg Public Service to ensure any recommendations align with the historical designation of the Council Building, Heritage Permit requirements, and the City Clerk's Department on protocol related matters.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

If the recommendations of this report are concurred in, an eagle staff, flower beadwork, Métis sash, small red river cart, carving, plaque, and medicine bundle will be obtained and permanently added to the Council Chamber. Indigenous Relations has allocated up to $13,300 from the Journey of Reconciliation budget and is also exploring availability of other existing City budgets to contribute to this total cost.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

In addition to the Treaty One, Dakota, and Métis Nations represented by the recently installed flags at City Hall, Indigenous Relations also engaged representatives of Tunngasugit and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) for inclusion of Inuit and Cree perspectives and cultures representative of the local population in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg has the largest Indigenous population of major Canadian cities and is growing faster than the non-Indigenous population. Demographic data identifies that in 2016, 54 per cent of the Indigenous population in Winnipeg identified as Métis, 44 per cent identified as First Nations, and 2 per cent identified as Inuk (Inuit). This context creates significant opportunities for truth and reconciliation, and Indigenous participation and influence in Winnipeg.

In Winnipeg, changes in recent years have brought great entrepreneurial, scientific, and cultural achievement, and the beginnings of what is intended to be a transformative journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. The current state of society has also brought urgent calls for reflection, equity, and change from the status quo, globally and locally, that can't be ignored.

The Winnipeg Indigenous Accord is one example of the City's commitment to building an ongoing process of reconciliation in Winnipeg, a process that is based on the establishment and maintenance of mutually respectful partnerships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit governments, organizations, and individuals.

The Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History policy aligns at a municipal level with Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action #43 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), particularly Article 15:

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.

2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

In October 2021, Indigenous Relations began to notify Indigenous governments and representative organizations of the City's intention to engage and collaborate for the purpose of obtaining their recommendations involving the new and permanent addition of Anishinaabe, Dakota, Cree, Métis, and Inuit symbolic items in the Winnipeg Council Chamber.

From November 2021 to May 2022, Indigenous Relations initiated and held discussions with representatives from Treaty One Nation, Dakota Nations of Manitoba, Tunngasugit, Manitoba Métis Federation, and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, and adhering to protocols to obtain recommendations.

On April 28, 2022, Council adopted the recommendations from Dakota Nations of Manitoba and Tunngasugit to permanently add a large map, Qulliq oil lamp, and Sealskin to the Council Chamber.

The following recommendations were received from the Manitoba Métis Federation, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, and Treaty One Nation:

<u>Manitoba Métis Federation – Red River Métis Recommendation</u>
Flower beadwork, Métis Sash, and small Red River Cart have been recommended by the Manitoba Métis Federation to be permanently added to the Council Chamber.

The Manitoba Métis Federation is the democratic Government of the Red River Métis, also known as the Manitoba Métis, which is the heart of the Historic Métis Nation. The Manitoba Métis negotiated Canada's entry into the North-West and is Canada's Partner in Confederation and the Founder of the Province of Manitoba.

The Red River Métis have a strong distinct identity and share a common history in the great western plains centred in the Red River Valley. The Red River Métis also identify as Bois Brûlés, flower beadwork people, Otipemisiwak, Louis Riel's people, and as Michif.

The Red River Métis are the People of the 1816 Battle of Seven Oaks, also known as the Victory at Frog Plain. It was from this battle that the new Métis Nation was born. Just prior to

that birth the symbol of the Métis Nation - the infinity flag of the Red River Métis - more commonly known as the Métis Nation flag, was first unfurled at Red River.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak – Nehiyawak (Cree) Recommendation
An Eagle Staff, a sacred symbol, is recommended to permanently reside in the Winnipeg Council Chamber.

In consultation with Elder David Blackmith, Elder Eliza Beardy, and Grand Chief Garrison Settee of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, it was recommended that an Eagle Staff, a sacred symbol, be prepared by Elder Blacksmith to permanently reside in the Winnipeg Council Chamber honouring the Nehiyawak (Cree). This will include guidance and teachings from Elder Blacksmith to identify the Eagle Staff carrier(s) and their responsibilities. Elder David Blacksmith is a respected traditional ceremony and sundance leader, and artist from Pimicikamāk Cree Nation (Cross Lake, Treaty 5), and he resides locally near Winnipeg.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) is a political advocacy organization that provides a collective voice on issues of inherent, Treaty, Aboriginal, and human rights for the citizens of the sovereign First Nations MKO represents. MKO represents citizens of twenty-six (26) First Nations who are signatories to Treaties 4, 5, 6 and 10. Grand Chief Garrison Settee, elected, serves as the principal spokesperson. A regionally representative Executive Council of Chiefs provides ongoing direction between General Assemblies.

Treaty One Nation – Anishinaabe/Ojibwe Recommendation
A carving gifted by Knowledge Keeper Raymond Mason, a medicine bundle, and a small plaque have been recommended by Treaty One Nation to be permanently added to the Council Chamber.

Knowledge Keeper Raymond Mason (Peguis First Nation) passed away in March 2022 and had made significant contributions to the Treaty One Nation as a member of the Knowledge Keepers council. Ray Mason was also deeply dedicated to his role as an advocate and activist for fellow Survivors. With the items to be added to the Council Chamber, a small plaque will be displayed recognizing Knowledge Keeper Raymond Mason and the carving that was gifted. In 2021, Raymond received an honorary doctorate from Queen's University for his work that began in the 1980s advocating for residential school survivors and for his involvement in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and Indian Day School Class Action. Raymond has said, "I have made it a personal mission to never give up on getting Survivors justice and compensation for what happened to us in these different institutions." As an author, Raymond's memoir "Spirit of the Grassroots People: Seeking Justice for Indigenous Survivors of Canada's Colonial Education System" describes his experiences in Indian day and residential schools in Manitoba, and the journey to find meaning in life after trauma and abuse.

Treaty No. 1 was negotiated and entered into on August 3, 1871, with seven Treaty One First Nations in Manitoba: Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation; Sagkeeng First Nation; Long Plain First Nation; Peguis First Nation; Roseau River Annishinabe First Nation; Sandy Bay First Nation; and Swan Lake First Nation.

Today, Treaty One Nation's leadership forms the Council that guides their governing system, including the development of Treaty One lands across Southern Manitoba. Creator has gifted First Nations people with inherent sovereignty including laws, teachings, ways of knowing and being that guide Treaty One Nation's decisions in the best interests of Treaty One First Nation peoples, lands, and relatives.

Historical Designation of the Council Building

Indigenous Relations consulted with the City's Heritage Planner and Heritage Officer in the Planning, Property and Development Department to determine if any of the new Indigenous items to be added to the Council Chamber qualify for Heritage Permits. In addition, it is not expected that displaying the recommended Indigenous symbolic items will require permanent alterations to any of the interior elements of the Council Chamber concerning wood, bronze accents, limestone walls, or the gold mosaic ceiling.

Indigenous Relations has allocated up to $13,300 from the Journey of Reconciliation budget and is also exploring the availability of other existing City budgets to contribute to this total cost. If no other funding sources are identified, Indigenous Relations will absorb the entire $13,300 cost.

A first report to add Indigenous symbolic items to the Council Chamber was approved by Council on April 28, 2022. This second report requests to bring forward three further recommendations related to the original project; recommendations in both reports will be implemented for a total budget of $13,300.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: May 16, 2022

Project Name:

Indigenous Symbolic Items in the Council Chamber

First Year of Program **2022**

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 13,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 13,300	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	13,300	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

Direct costs of $13,300 represent the total estimated cost to permanently add all recommended Indigenous symbolic items to the Council Chamber and will be funded by the Indigenous Relations Division's Journey of Reconciliation 2022 adopted operating budget.

Jocelyn Peters - May 16, 2022

Jocelyn Peters, CPA, CGA
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Planning, Property and Development Department
- City Clerks

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The information and recommendations presented in this report align with and advance OurWinnipeg 2045:

They embody the following goals and policies:

Leadership and Good Governance
Policy 1.11 – Representative and Participatory Democracy
Create meaningful engagement opportunities with residents, stakeholders and rightsholders, who are interested in or impacted by a decision. Develop standards for engagement including notification, information-sharing, and a process for incorporating feedback into decision-making. ER, EP, HW, SE, CB

Social Equity
Policy 5.4 – Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples
Prioritize municipal implementation responsibilities within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action, and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. LG, ER, EP, HW, CB

Policy 5.5 – Indigenous Lens
Develop an Indigenous lens, which recognizes, respects, and advances multiple and diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis knowledge, rights, and perspectives. Apply the lens throughout municipal leadership and governance processes, policies, programs and practices to eliminate elements that knowingly or unknowingly enable the exclusion of Indigenous Peoples. LG, ER, EP, HW, CB

Policy 5.8 – Community Cohesion
Provide opportunities for creative, cultural, and artistic expression through municipal facility design, public place-making, and community-led initiatives to promote community relationship-building, identity and sense of belonging. HW, CB

Policy 5.9 – Heritage Conservation
Provide opportunities for heritage education, truth-telling, and reconciliation, through the commemoration, conservation, and stewardship of both tangible and intangible heritage resources, including Indigenous land-based practices and artifacts, public names, places, and art, museum artifacts, and archived information. LG, HW

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

The information and recommendations presented in this report align with and advance the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (2021 – 2031) as follows:

They embody the following Guiding Principles:

- We will Uphold Human Rights
- We will Honour Relationships and Reconciliation with Indigenous People

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
Division: Indigenous Relations
Prepared by: T. Cechvala
Date: May 26, 2022
File No: N/A