

Sharing Prosperity through Reconciliation

ISSUE

The City of Saskatoon and the Saskatoon Tribal Council share a common objective in improving the quality of life for all people that reside in Saskatoon. To advance this objective, the City of Saskatoon and the Saskatoon Tribal Council have prepared a protocol agreement titled, "Sharing Prosperity Through Reconciliation". It provides a formal agreement in which the parties can plan a common path forward to improve the quality of life for First Nations' citizens.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That City Council approve entering into a protocol agreement as contained in Appendix 1; and
2. That His Worship the Mayor sign the agreement on behalf of City Council at a date agreeable to the Mayor and the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

BACKGROUND

On June 22, 2015, City Council directed the Administration to identify responses and financial implications of the TRC Calls to Action. At the same time, City Council declared July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, the Year of Reconciliation. The Administration was directed to work with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC), and other community groups, leaders, and institutions in Saskatchewan to promote reconciliation.

The Administration reported on October 19, 2015, and was directed to provide regular updates outlining successes, as well as outstanding items, along with an update of events recognizing the Year of Reconciliation in Saskatoon. The Administration was also directed to report with a plan for increased professional development and training for employees, with a long-term target of 100 percent participation.

The 2018-2021 Strategic Plan focuses on delivering services that help build an increasingly prosperous, safe and sustainable community. In discussions, both Saskatoon Tribal Council and City of Saskatoon are interested in pursuing a more formalized arrangement between the orders of government.

On August 26, 2019, City Council considered the Proposed Protocol Agreement with the Saskatoon Tribal Council report, and resolved that the Administration collaborate with the Saskatoon Tribal Council to establish a Protocol Agreement as outlined in the report.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The proposed protocol agreement, "Sharing Prosperity through Reconciliation," establishes a stronger working relationship between the City of Saskatoon and the Saskatoon Tribal Council. The primary goal of the agreement is to establish a guiding

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framework to develop programs and initiatives that aim to advance reconciliation and improve the quality of life for all citizens of Saskatoon. Please consult Appendix 1 for more details on the proposed agreement.

The main objective of the proposed protocol agreement is to establish foundational principles and meeting protocols that will lead to the development of a common work plan over the next five years. In doing so, the agreement provides a mutually beneficial joint course of action with each party taking responsibility for achieving a productive working relationship.

More specifically, the intent is that senior political and administration members who have been tasked with the advancement of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action will provide input into the development of a framework of symbiotic actions to improve the quality of life for First Nations people living in the Saskatoon. Each organization will identify administrative working groups to design and carry out the priority initiatives and activities within the framework.

IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial or budgetary implications resulting from the approval of the proposed agreement. The working groups will attempt to implement the agreement within current resources. However, this may result in a reallocation of current budgets and resources to different areas within the City. City Council will continue to direct and oversee the Administration's priorities in this area through their ongoing budget, strategic planning, and report consideration processes. If necessary and where applicable, additional resources may be pursued from other orders of government, community partners and private sector investors.

NEXT STEPS

Following approval by City Council, the Saskatoon Tribal Council and City of Saskatoon representatives will cooperatively plan a signing ceremony in the fall of 2019. Once the agreement is officially signed, both organizations will initiate a joint planning meeting to develop ways in which to accomplish the goals and objectives of the protocol agreement.

The Administration will provide an Information Report to the Governance and Priorities Committee one year after official signing of the agreement. The intent of this report is to advise on the agreement's implementation.

APPENDIX

1. Protocol Agreement "Sharing Prosperity through Reconciliation"

Report Approval

Written by: Gilles Dorval, Director of Indigenous Initiatives
Reviewed by: Mike Jordan, Chief Public Policy & Government Relations Officer
Reviewed by: Dan Willems, Interim Chief Strategy & Transformation Officer
Approved by: Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

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