

Priorities Committee Meeting_Sep13_2022

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Plan Update 2022

Report Purpose

To provide Priorities Committee with an update on Administration's progress in addressing and implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 4 - Municipal Excellence

Goal 2 Priority - Indigenous relations that advance reconciliation

Goal 2 Priority - A diverse, welcoming, inclusive, and an accessible community for all

Goal 4 Priority - Relationships with all levels of government and key stakeholders that are strategic, purposeful and productive

Report

This report outlines the progress-to-date of Strathcona County's implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Plan, as presented to Council in September 2021. This plan, addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action, represents an important step in the County's commitment to reconciliation and to making good relations with Indigenous communities.

Background

In 2008, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was created to investigate, document, and educate Canadians on the history and legacy of the residential school system. The TRC conducted extensive research and collected testimonials, photos, and records from residential school survivors, their families and those involved in the operation of the schools. In 2015, the Commission completed its work and issued a series of final reports, including 94 Calls to Action. It then transferred all records and findings to a new national archive, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR).

In July 2021, Council directed Administration to review all the Calls to Action and develop an action plan addressing those calls directed towards municipalities. At that time, Administration identified nine initial calls that were either directed at municipalities or all levels of government, were within County jurisdiction, or were something the County was already addressing. In September 2021, Administration presented a high-level action plan to Council, identifying short, medium, and long-term actions the County could take to address each of the calls. Since that time, Intergovernmental Affairs has coordinated the tracking and implementation of this action plan and served as a resource for all departments advancing reconciliation through their work.

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TRC Calls to Action Plan Update

The TRC Calls to Action Plan Update (Enclosure 1) reflects an updated version of the County's approach to implementing the TRC Calls to Action. This report provides a summary of each call to action and an overview of the County's work-to-date. It also outlines the direction the County is currently moving, reflecting short, medium and long-term initiatives the County intends to implement to fulfill the TRC Calls to Action.

The County also understands that the work of reconciliation goes beyond addressing the TRC Calls to Action. To date, work towards reconciliation has included a variety of initiatives and projects aimed at establishing new relationships with Indigenous communities, to celebrating Indigenous histories and cultures, and to incorporating Indigenous perspectives throughout the work of the County. The TRC Calls to Action Plan Update (Enclosure 1) also includes a list of several initiatives the County has taken beyond the steps taken to fulfill the TRC Calls to Action.

Administration will continue to return to Priorities Committee on an annual basis as directed by Council while the implementation of this plan is underway. In the future, the County hopes to identify a broader approach to Indigenous relations and reconciliation through the development of a strategy or framework, created in collaboration with the administrative Indigenous Advisory Committee.

Council and Committee History

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| September 14, 2021 | THAT Administration report annually to Priorities Committee on the status of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Plan; |
| July 6, 2021 | THAT Administration review the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action to identify all that are related to municipalities and to develop an action plan that ensures Strathcona County has a plan in place to implement each of these Actions; and |
| | THAT Administration provide a report to Council or Priorities Committee outlining the proposed action plan on or before September 14, 2021. |

Other Impacts

Policy: N/A

Financial/Budget: N/A

Legislative/Legal: N/A

Interdepartmental: Legislative and Legal Services; RCMP and Enforcement Services; Recreation, Parks and Culture; Family and Community Services; Communications; Human Resources

Master Plan/Framework: N/A

Enclosure(s)

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| 1 | TRC Action Plan Annual Update Report |
| 2 | TRC Action Plan Annual Update Presentation |