

Protocol (Relationship) Agreement Scoping Update

IGA2024-0941

2024 September 5

Recommendations

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee:

1. Forward Report IGA2024-0941 to the 2024 September 23 Indigenous Focused Regular Council Meeting, as an Item from Committee.

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommend that Council:

1. Direct Administration to commence Protocol (Relationship) Agreement development with the Blackfoot Confederacy, and report back to Council through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee with the agreement for approval, upon completion.
2. Approve Administration's request to apply to the Government of Alberta's 2024-2025 Alberta Community Partnership fund to access matching grant dollars for protocol implementation.
3. Direct Administration to develop a sustainment plan for Protocol (Relationship) Agreements beyond 2026, and report back to Council through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee in Q1 of 2026.

Background

- Protocol (Relationship) Agreements establish a framework of cooperation for social, environmental, and economic areas of mutual interest for municipalities and Indigenous governments.
- In November 2023, The Mayor's Office received a request from the Blackfoot Confederacy to enter negotiations to develop a Protocol (Relationship) Agreement.
- The City of Calgary does not currently have Protocol (Relationship) Agreements with any First Nation or Indigenous group. There is an opportunity for this work to advance municipal Calls to Action in the White Goose Flying Report.
- In March 2024, Council directed Administration to return with a scoping update on the request.

Scoping and Proposed Approach

To inform the proposed approach, Administration met with other governments to learn from their experience developing Agreements and worked with the Blackfoot Confederacy to develop a collaborative approach. The following guidelines were drafted to support the process:

- Using parallel processes
- Identifying and understanding mutual areas of interest
- Leveraging existing templates
- Administrative co-drafting

Resourcing

- Administration will fund agreement development through one-time budget earmarked for the Indigenous Relations Office over 2023-2026.
- There is an opportunity for Administration to apply for additional matching dollars through the Government of Alberta's Alberta Community Partnership grant for Agreement implementation.
- These two funding sources will allow the work to be sustained until 2026 at which time a refined budget request may be presented.

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