



Memorandum of Understanding

The Blackfoot Confederacy and The City of Calgary

IGA2025-0096

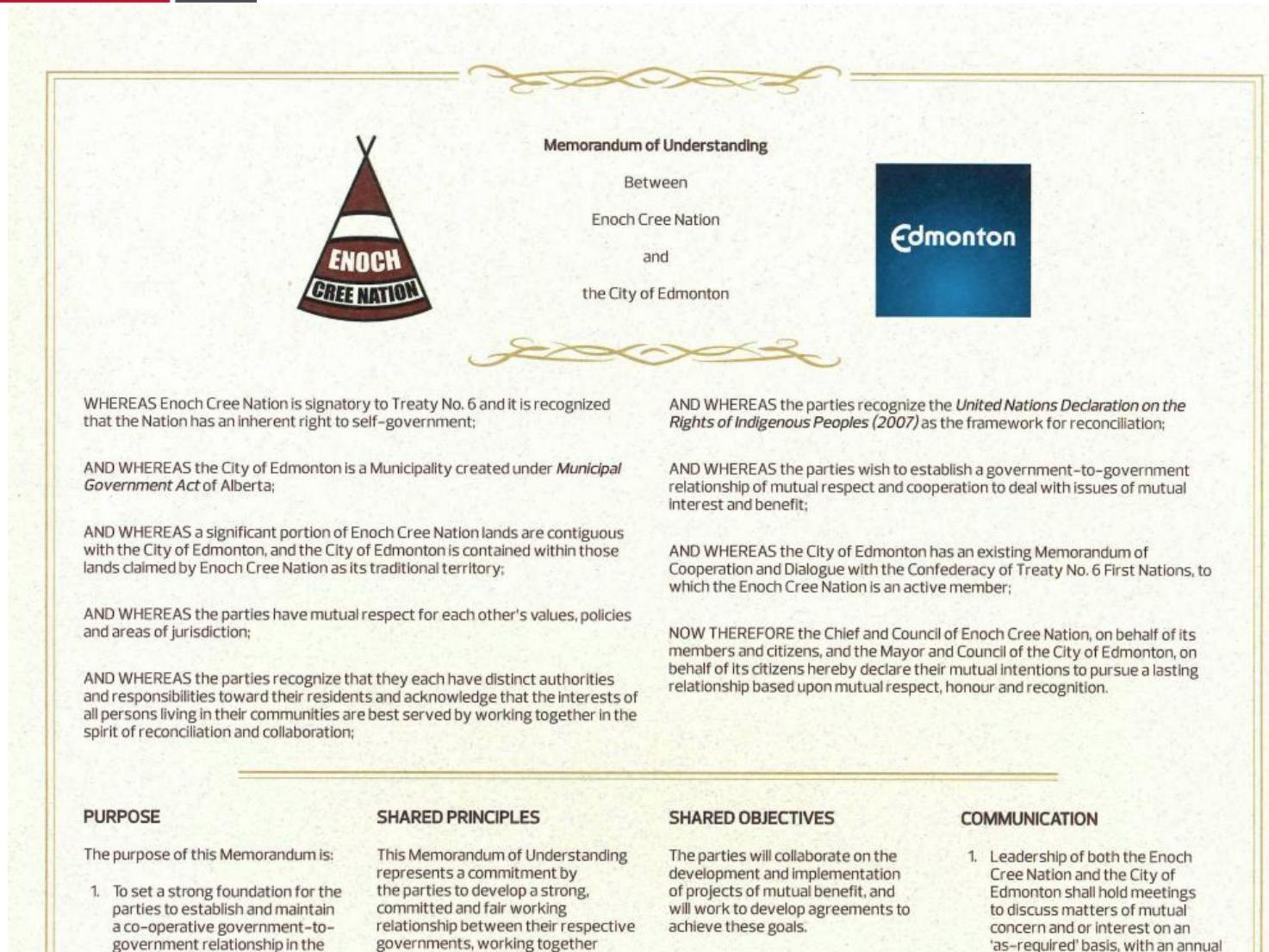
2025 March 20

Recommendation

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommend that Council:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding on Communication and Cooperation and direct Administration to begin implementation.

Memoranda of Understanding (or Protocol Agreements)

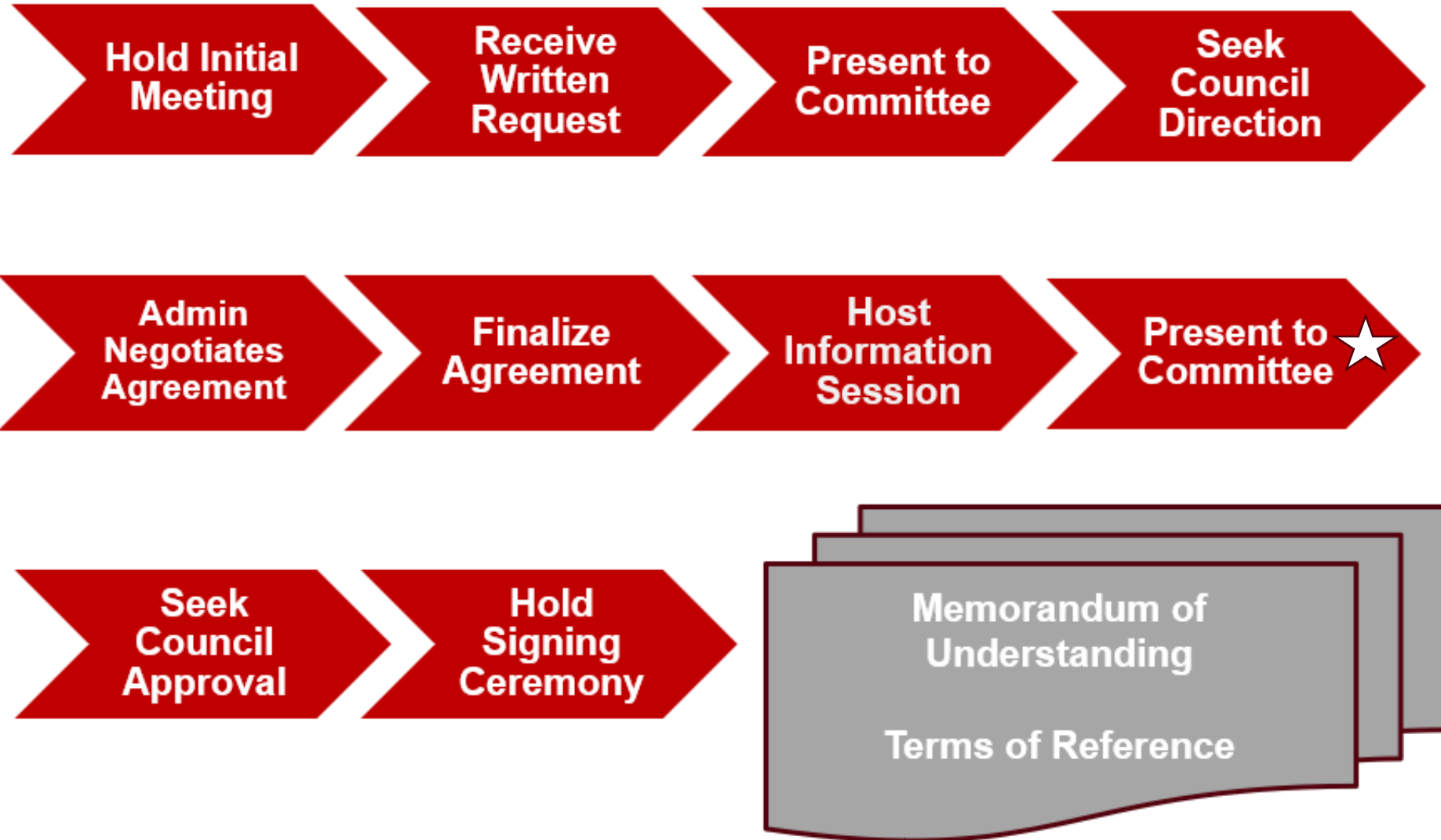


- Outline how municipalities and Indigenous groups will engage with one another and establish a collaborative relationship.
- Strengthens relationships between partners, smoothing the way for economic partnerships, joint programming and other agreements.

Nation Requests and Council Direction

- In November 2023, the Mayor's Office received a letter from the Blackfoot Confederacy requesting that The City of Calgary enter negotiations to develop of a Protocol (Relationship) Agreement (see Attachment 1).
- In September 2024, Council directed Administration to commence agreement development and report back to Council through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee with the agreement for approval, upon completion.
- The Blackfoot Confederacy is the first group to request an agreement of this kind from The City, setting the precedent for other Nations.
- In November 2024, The City received two additional requests for agreements from Tsuut'ina and Bearspaw Nation. Both agreements are under development.

MOU Development Process



MOU Structure

Two corresponding documents developed:

1. Memorandum of Understanding

- Overarching guiding document recognizing each partner and outlining shared principles for collaboration
- Signed by Mayor and Chiefs

2. Terms of Reference

- Outlines the logistical details for meeting and implementation through the establishment of a Technical Committee who oversees the work.
- Signed by executive administrative leaders from both partners.
- Format mirrors the Terms of Reference for The City's Intermunicipal Committees
- Can be updated as needed upon the agreement of committee chairs.

Resourcing

- Upon Council direction, an application was submitted by Administrative with a recommendation letter from the Blackfoot Confederacy to the Government of Alberta's Alberta Community Partnership Grant. Administration is currently awaiting a decision.
- In Q1 of 2026, Administration will report back to Council through the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee with a proposed sustainment plan for review and approval.

Next Steps

- The City of Calgary and Blackfoot Confederacy will host a Pipe Ceremony and signing this spring.
- The Technical Committee will be convened to begin implementation.



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