

Indigenous Flags to be Displayed in Council Chamber

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Administration engaged with the member Nations of Treaty 7, the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3 and the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (CAUAC) to determine which flags would be appropriate to display in the Chamber. During this engagement, Administration received feedback from all Nations, and continues to work to refine a strategy and proposal for the display of these flags.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That Council direct Administration to continue its work with the member Nations of Treaty 7 and the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3 to refine a strategy and proposal for the display of Indigenous flags in the Council Chamber.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

At the 2017 April 24 meeting of Council, a motion arising directed:

“that with respect to Report CPS2017-0306, that Council direct Administration to engage with the member nations of Treaty 7 (the Kainai Nation, the Piikani Nation, the Siksika Nation, the Tsuut’ina Nation, the Bearspaw Nation, the Chiniki Nation, and the Wesley Nation), to engage with the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3 and to engage with Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (“CAUAC”) and seek their advice to determine which flags would be appropriate to display in Council Chambers to recognize and honour our Indigenous neighbours and further the City’s efforts on the journey towards reconciliation. Administration is to report back no later than September 11, 2017 with a recommendation of additional flags to be displayed in Council Chambers”.

At the 2017 September 11 Council meeting, Administration was directed to return to Council with a recommendation on which Indigenous flags to display in the Chamber at the same time as further consideration of the Indigenous Policy Framework (scheduled for 2017 Q4). At the 2017 December 18 Council meeting, the recommendation was again deferred to Q1 2018, to allow for continued engagement.

BACKGROUND

Since receiving Council’s direction in 2017, Administration has worked to engage all member Nations of Treaty 7, the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3, and CAUAC to develop a strategy and proposal for displaying Indigenous flags in the Council Chamber. All Indigenous neighbours and CAUAC have been contacted and valuable feedback has been received. There is overall support for this initiative, and Administration is seeking to refine the strategy and proposal to display the flags.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

An initial engagement strategy was developed in consultation with the Engage unit of Customer Service and Communications, and Calgary Neighbourhoods. The strategy was designed to ensure an appropriate approach to gather information from our Indigenous neighbours.

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Strategic Alignment

This initiative aligns with Council's adoption of the recommendation made by CAUAC in their report *White Goose Flying*, which advised that adding the Treaty 7 flag would be an actionable initiative that would contribute to the call to 'reaffirm and renew Treaty relationships, and maintain them for the future'.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

N/A

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

To be determined based on the agreed upon proposal.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

Not applicable

Risk Assessment

Not applicable

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

Refining a strategy and proposal with Calgary's Indigenous neighbors furthers The City's efforts on the journey towards reconciliation.