

Memo

April 16, 2017

To: Mayor Naheed Nenshi and Members of Council

From: Brad Stevens
Deputy City Manager

Re: **Response to Administrative Inquiry at the Strategic Council Meeting
2018 February 28**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The focus of this Administrative Inquiry is The City of Calgary's relationship with the Tsuut'ina Nation. Council directed Administration to first report back to the 2018 April 19 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee with:

"...suggestions as to how City Mayor and Council and the Nation's Chief and Council, as well as City Administration and Nation's Administration, might work together collaboratively to develop a framework to discuss development matters, including the identification of benefits and impacts, and explore areas of mutual interest."

The second portion of the Administrative Inquiry addressed the potential interface issues associated with the redevelopment of the Tsuut'ina Nation lands and is anticipated for the end of Q2 delivery to the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

The City is dedicated to sharing a pathway forward and committed to building an equitable and inclusive city. To achieve this commitment, establishing leadership-to-leadership relationships with all Indigenous partners to discuss matters of mutual interest is essential. These efforts can lay the foundation for moving forward with appropriate engagement and respectful collaborative frameworks.

Creating a sustained and enduring relationship between The City, Treaty 7 Nations, the Métis Nation of Alberta – Region 3, and urban Indigenous Calgarians, require dialogue based upon mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility. The City should not presuppose a relationship framework, and instead leverage joint experiences to co-create frameworks that will benefit Calgarians and Indigenous partners. While this Administrative Inquiry focuses on The City's relationship with Tsuut'ina Nation, it also suggests that The City of Calgary also reach out to other Indigenous partners at an elected official level.

BACKGROUND

The City of Calgary continues to work toward reconciliation and strong mutual relationships with Treaty 7 Nations, Métis Nation of Alberta – Region 3 and urban Indigenous Calgarians. The 2019-2022 Council Directives for One Calgary include the following:



Memo

"In concert with the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, The City must develop a positive, strong and enduring relationship with Treaty 7 First Nations, Métis Nation of Alberta – Region 3, and all urban Indigenous Calgarians. Council is committed to developing a new vision that acknowledges historical issues and recognizes that true reconciliation is only possible within an ethical space of engagement and understanding of Indigenous-Canadian history. We will build capacity among City staff and all Calgarians to foster cultural humility and competency, understanding and sensitivity to support true partnership with our Indigenous partners."

Building on the work of the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee in the report titled *White Goose Flying: Calls to Action* (2016), Council approved the Indigenous Policy (CP2017-02) and Adopted in Principle the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee's Indigenous Policy Framework (CPS2017-0306). Those documents emphasize the importance of building relationships towards equitable environments. Council's Indigenous Policy (CP2017-02) points to a preferred approach to establishing understanding and agreement based on Ways of Building Relationships and Ways Towards Equitable Environments.

Whereas there are good reasons for exploring coordinated development patterns between the Tsuut'ina Nation's lands and lands in The City's jurisdiction, a co-created relationship framework must first be built. The co-created relationship framework should be based on mutual respect, mutual recognition, and shared responsibility between Nation leaders (Chief and Council) and The City of Calgary leaders (Mayor and Council).

INVESTIGATION

The foundation for municipal-Indigenous collaboration is not formally framed by extensive provincial or federal legislation. However, changes in the Municipal Government Act (MGA), have opened the door to better engagement of First Nations in municipal planning efforts. Section 636(1)(g)(h) of the MGA requires municipalities to notify and provide opportunities for input for any adjacent First Nation reserve or adjacent Métis settlement when preparing a municipal development plan or area structure plan. The jointly approved Foothills-Calgary Intermunicipal Development Plan (Bylaw 18P2017) recognized the Tsuut'ina Nation and Treaty 7 First Nations as plan area neighbours and as potential stakeholders in future planning processes and require engagement in an appropriate manner.

The City of Calgary's Administration has some experience working directly with the Administration of the Tsuut'ina Nation. For example, The City of Calgary has been providing water and wastewater servicing to Tsuut'ina Nation since 1972. The City of Calgary and Tsuut'ina Nation Master Servicing Agreement (2017) references the need to meet annually at a minimum, and to share information on growth, development, and long-range infrastructure plans. The need to develop a system to share information for mutual benefit was also addressed in the Master Servicing Agreement.

There are two other examples that could provide guidance in establishing respectful relationships based on mutual respect with Indigenous partners. First, The City has recently initiated the concept of collaboratively developed Implementation Guides (CPS2017-1142). These Guides will be historically and culturally informed and allow for the co-creation of practices and protocols relating to engagement. An Implementation Guide is currently being developed between The City and Métis Nation of Alberta – Region 3.

The second example, while not specific to Indigenous relationships, demonstrates how elected officials are engaged across municipal jurisdictions: The City of Calgary currently participates in three Intermunicipal Committees (City of Chestermere, Foothills County, Rocky View

County). These Committees are supported by Administrations and reflect a political forum for cooperation, collaboration and network building across municipal boundaries.

While drawing best practices from these examples is important, it is equally important for elected officials from The City of Calgary and the Tsuut'ina Nation to co-create a collaborative framework together.

CONCLUSION

The City of Calgary could reach out to the Tsuut'ina Nation at an elected official level to begin a process of co-creating a relationship framework. This should be a collaborative journey founded on mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility. The City should not presuppose a relationship framework, and instead leverage joint experiences to co-create a framework that will benefit Calgarians and members of Tsuut'ina Nation.

While the Administrative Inquiry focused on Calgary's relationship with Tsuut'ina Nation, efforts will also need to be taken with all Treaty 7 Nations, the Métis Nation of Alberta – Region 3, and urban Indigenous Calgarians, at an appropriate time. It is essential to ensure that each Indigenous partner can be heard within a process they can trust to resolve conflicting interests as they arise.

Brad Stevens
Deputy City Manager
T: (403) 268-2353

cc: Jeff Fielding, City Manager
Administrative Leadership Team

