

**Community Services Report to
SPC on Community and Protective Services
2018 November 07**

**ISC: UNRESTRICTED
CPS2018-1215**

Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the third annual progress update on the implementation of the *Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (CAUAC) Strategic Plan 2014-2023* (the *CAUAC Strategic Plan*). The detailed update and actions can be found in Attachment 1. The word Indigenous is used interchangeably with Aboriginal throughout this report and includes First Nations, Métis, Inuit and all urban Indigenous Calgarians.

CAUAC is a key partner in the collective efforts towards positive Indigenous relations, truth and reconciliation, and was instrumental in the development of the *Indigenous Policy* (2017) and the *White Goose Flying* report (2016). These documents, as part of CAUAC's work, serve to create an important foundation for creating a path towards mutual prosperity for all Calgarians.

As noted in the report an emerging objective of CAUAC is to review the committee's Terms of Reference. This objective is in alignment with the most recent Council Direction noted below.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommends that Council receive for information the progress update on the implementation of the *Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (CAUAC) Strategic Plan 2014-2023* (Attachment 1).

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

On 2018 October 22, Council adopted the following Motion Arising with respect to Report N2018-1036:

"That Council direct Administration to:

1. Hire an external consultant with expertise in Indigenous governance, who, after being authorized by Administration, is to undertake a comprehensive review of Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (CAUAC) in conjunction with the work on developing an Indigenous Relations Office, and report back to Council in Q1 of 2019 with recommendations on modernizing the Terms of Reference.
2. Ensure that the work of the CAUAC reviewed by the external consultant evolves into current best practice Indigenous governance in contrast to previous traditional colonial practices that have been a constraint in the past.
3. Ensure that the review provides a mechanism to meet the needs of Indigenous interests in Calgary."

On 2017 April 24, at the Regular Meeting of Council, Council directed Administration to work with CAUAC to further identify and develop implementation plans and resource requirements, related to the *CAUAC Strategic Plan* and the *Indigenous Policy*, for Council's consideration in the 2019 to 2022 Business Plan.

On 2015 July 27, Council adopted Notice of Motion NM2015-17 and directed Administration to report back to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services no later than May 2016, in conjunction with the CAUAC Annual Report, with recommendations on moving forward with Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action that are within The

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City's jurisdiction, and to provide an update to Council on progress on the review of the TRC recommendations and next steps no later than November 2015.

On 2014 February 10 at the Combined Meeting of Council, Council adopted PFC2014-0083, 'Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee Terms of Reference and Strategic Plan', and directed CAUAC to report annually to Council starting in 2015, through the SPC on Community and Protective Services, on progress towards its Strategic Plan.

BACKGROUND

The primary function of CAUAC is to provide Council with professional and strategic advice on matters that affect Indigenous Calgarians and offer ongoing guidance in relation to the implementation of strategies that advance Indigenous interests in ways that benefit all Calgarians. In recognition of the shared responsibility for creating positive relations and reconciliation, CAUAC's membership includes both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. The *CAUAC Strategic Plan* (Attachment 2) is an integral component of CAUAC's commitment to action.

According to the 2016 Census data, Indigenous peoples off-reserve constitute the youngest and fastest growing segment of Canadian society. Currently, over 35,000 Indigenous people call Calgary home and 42 per cent of Indigenous Calgarians are under the age of 25, compared to 30 per cent of non-Indigenous Calgarians.

CAUAC continues to provide input and advice to Administration on programs and projects that contribute to the implementation of the *White Goose Flying* report. In addition, CAUAC has contributed to the development and delivery of the Council and Senior Management Team Indigenous awareness training sessions.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

CAUAC Accomplishments and Objectives

CAUAC continues to work collaboratively with Administration and community partners to achieve the goals as set out in the *CAUAC Strategic Plan*. Details of the accomplishments and objectives can be found in Attachment 1.

Highlights include:

Accomplishments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Increased information sharing and development of relationships across communities and initiatives, including with the Aboriginal Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness.▪ Identification of the need to review the current Communications Strategy.▪ Input on the initial scoping of a proposed Calgary Indigenous Relations Office, related to the operational structure and resource requirements.▪ Presentation of the 2017 Chief David Crowchild Memorial Award to Elaine Cairns and the CAUAC Youth Achievement Award to Latasha Calf Robe.

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Emerging Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review CAUAC terms of reference.▪ Update current Communications Strategy to reflect emerging and current trends.▪ Provide additional input for a potential Calgary Indigenous Relations Office and plan dedicated sessions focused on providing advice to this important initiative.▪ Increase awareness of the Chief David Crowchild Memorial Awards and the CAUAC Youth achievement awards through social media, networking opportunities and community connections.

Implementation Plans and Resource Requirements

As directed by Council, Administration has been working with CAUAC to further identify and develop implementation plans and resource requirements related to the *CAUAC Strategic Plan* and the *Indigenous Policy*, for Council's consideration in the 2019 to 2022 Business Plan. The proposed approach for the Indigenous Relations Office incorporates CAUAC's input and priorities which include: further The City's work with Indigenous partners on matters of mutual interest; advance reconciliation; understand and respect Indigenous protocol; and, build meaningful relationships. To achieve this work, additional dedicated resources are proposed in the One Calgary service plans and budget. In response to the Motion Arising with respect to Report N2018-1036, Administration, will work with CAUAC to engage an external consultant with expertise in Indigenous governance to review CAUAC's Terms of Reference in light of the potential development of a Calgary Indigenous Relations Office.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

CAUAC strives to improve the opportunities and the quality of life of Indigenous people living in Calgary. This mission is grounded in honouring the past and the traditional territory on which Calgary is situated. Continual engagement, active research and ongoing communication is key to moving forward the vision of Calgary as a place where Indigenous people are full participants in civic life.

The development of a Calgary Indigenous Relations Office is identified in the *CAUAC Strategic Plan* as a strategy integral to relationship building. As a key stakeholder, CAUAC provided feedback throughout Administration's scoping process for a proposed Calgary Indigenous Relations Office. CAUAC convened a day-long session to provide further discussion and details around CAUAC's vision for a potential Calgary Indigenous Relations Office. If development of such an office is approved by Council, CAUAC supports broader engagement as a critical next step necessary for its successful development.

Strategic Alignment

- **2019-2022 Council Directives:** In support of A Well-Run City (W5), CAUAC's work supports the stewardship of the *Indigenous Policy* and the implementation of the Calls to Action in the *White Goose Flying* report.
- The ***Indigenous Policy***: "The City will strive to learn from and work with Indigenous communities, grounded in the spirit and intent of reconciliation. The City is devoted to a shared pathway forward, and a firm commitment to building an equitable and inclusive city."

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- Council-approved **Social Wellbeing Principles**: “Advance the active and shared process of truth and reconciliation in collaboration with the community.”
- **ImagineCalgary**: “By 2020, all public institutions and systems create and implement an Aboriginal policy.”
- **Cultural Plan for Calgary**: “Will conserve and celebrate Calgary’s built, natural and Indigenous Heritage.”

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Social

The *White Goose Flying* report identifies actions important to supporting Indigenous people to participate in and benefit from the full range of The City’s planning and decision-making. These actions also support the broader community to understand shared history and reconciliation. Indigenous values including integrity, humility, respect, honour for oral stories and validation for Elders, connection, spirituality, inclusion, consensus-building etc., have been identified in the *CAUAC Strategic Plan*. These values illustrate the beneficial social impact that the diverse perspectives of Indigenous community members can have on everyday decision-making.

Environmental

The interconnected nature of all people, objects and the environment is a common understanding within Indigenous worldviews. The land is considered sacred. There is an opportunity for a greater integration of Indigenous worldviews into land stewardship and protection. This recognition is a key component of the *CAUAC Strategic Plan* and is within the *White Goose Flying* report.

Economic

CAUAC’s mission is centred on making recommendations on policies and resolutions that give urban Indigenous people a more meaningful role within the Calgary community. An important aspect of this is to eliminate economic disparities experienced by Indigenous people through creating improved employment opportunities and increased inclusion of Indigenous people in the full spectrum of economic opportunities.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

There are no operating budget considerations associated with this report as this is included in the One Calgary plan for development of an Indigenous Relations Office.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

There are no capital budget considerations associated with this report.

Risk Assessment

Some stakeholders have expressed concern that the space for Indigenous Calgarians to voice concerns and influence decision-making utilizing dual paradigms (application of Western and Indigenous thinking) is not inclusive enough. As mitigation to this risk, CAUAC is undertaking the development of an updated communication strategy to facilitate stronger connections between CAUAC, The City of Calgary and Indigenous Calgarians. Further, CAUAC will continue to provide opportunities for Indigenous Calgarians to voice concerns and influence decision-

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making within an Indigenous paradigm on a regular basis, including through one-on-one discussions and regularly scheduled CAUAC meetings. CAUAC will also continue to link to other community initiatives such as Enough for All and the Social Wellbeing Advisory Committee to increase dialogue and provide input. In addition, as part of the 2018 CAUAC recruitment process, additional committee skills and qualifications were identified. This was done to ensure that CAUAC is reflective of evolving Indigenous demographics and is poised to address emerging challenges and opportunities in an inclusive way.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

CAUAC reports annually to Council through the SPC on Community and Protective Services, on progress towards its Strategic Plan as directed by PFC2014-0083.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Attachment 1 – Update on the Implementation of the *CAUAC Strategic Plan 2014-2023*
2. Attachment 2 – Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (CAUAC) Strategic Plan 2014-2023