



**MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE
MEETING NOTES**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m. and adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Brian Bowman
Kimberley Puhach, Chairperson
Dee Thomas-Hart
Chantal Daniels
Ry Moran
Sean McCormick
Elder Norman Meade
Alan Greyeyes
Damon Johnston
Dr. Sherry Peden
Councillor Cindy Gilroy
Elder Mae Louise Campbell

REGRETS:

Elder Harry Bone
Chief Robert Louie
Dr. Phil Fontaine
Councillor Jenny Gerbasi
Elder Lucy Guiboche
Dr. Cindy Blackstock
Jessica Dumas
EJ Fontaine
Kerri Tattuinee
Dr. Marcia Anderson-Decoteau
Senator Murray Sinclair

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE:

Manley A. Begay Jr.

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE:

Tricia Chestnut, Senior Policy Analyst, Mayor's Office
Rhonda Forgues, Manager, Indigenous Relations Division, Corporate Support Services
Tracey Kennedy, Projects and Performance Metrics Coordinator, Indigenous Relations Division
Sherwood Armbruster, Special Projects Manager, City Clerk's Department

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, December 15, 2016, 10 a.m.

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No.	Item	Notes
	<p><i>Call to Order</i></p> <p><i>Opening Prayer by Elder Mae Louise Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Review and Acceptance of Notes of June 27, 2016 Meeting</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable Introduction and comments</i></p>	
1	Mayor's Update	<p>Mayor Bowman acknowledged that we are on Treaty One land as well as the Traditional Homeland of the Metis Nation.</p> <p>Congratulations to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation for their partnership with Gord Downie in his upcoming multi-media project, <i>Secret Path</i>. Recommendation to read Ry Moran's powerful September 13, 2016 Op-ed special in <i>The Globe & Mail</i> entitled, "Can you hear Gord Downie's call for reconciliation?"</p> <p>http://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/can-you-hear-gord-downies-call-for-reconciliation/article31834821/</p> <p>It has been a busy Summer as will be reported in updates from the Indigenous Relations Division and Councillor Gilroy regarding civic and community initiatives. The Year of Reconciliation is not just a "civic" initiative, but it is intended for the community. There are countless good things occurring in our City and members are encouraged to report on these activities so that <i>MIAC</i> can amplify community efforts.</p> <p>Year of Reconciliation pins were circulated for distribution.</p>
2	Chair's Update	<p>Thank you to the Indigenous Relations Division and Circle members for all their hard work. The idea of reconciliation as well as the level of interest and understanding is building momentum. <u>We are at a very important and exciting time.</u></p>
3	<p>Indigenous Relations Division</p> <p>i. Winnipeg Indigenous Accord Update</p> <p>Tracey Kennedy</p>	<p>See separate attachments, including <i>Draft Accord</i> as well as presentation entitled, <i>Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord</i>.</p> <p>Acknowledgment of working group members Kimberley Puhach, Sean McCormick, Damon Johnston and Tricia Chestnut.</p> <p>Following the presentation, members participated in a general discussion and provided feedback on the draft Indigenous Accord.</p> <p>The differentiation between needs-based groups and rights-based groups was noted. While separating needs and rights often leads to conflict, sometimes the needs-based groups really need rights. It can also be difficult to distinguish the difference between needs and rights, for example regarding issues of land, water, culture.</p> <p>There has been progress as local First Nation representative authorities and Program and Service Agencies are developing a Memorandum of Understanding. <i>MIAC</i> has an important role in establishing the Accord to in order to bring the community together.</p>

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		<p>As a City, our challenge is to create that safe zone for Indigenous peoples. Safety for Indigenous rights and cultures is an important principle. Edmonton story of how Jesse Lipscombe and Mayor Don Iveson turned ugly racism incident into the “Make it Awkward” campaign.</p> <p>Along with acknowledgement of Treaty One land and Traditional Metis Homeland, it was suggested that proceedings introduce a history lesson that tells personal stories of Indigenous contributions to society.</p> <p>Members urged to use their individual platforms to counter intents and effects of racism. Reconciliation is a spiritual exercise. It occurs in the spirit, not in the mind so it is more feeling, than knowing. It leads to action.</p> <p>It requires the involvement of non-Indigenous persons so it must be an experience that everyone can ask.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Mayor will meet with numerous Indigenous and community leaders as identified by the working group; ii. Input from <i>MIAC</i> and Indigenous leaders to be incorporated into next draft of the Accord; iii. Receive feedback from the City of Winnipeg’s Legal Department.
	<p>ii. Year of Reconciliation Initiatives Update</p> <p>Rhonda Forgues</p>	<p>See separate attachment for presentation entitled, “TRC Update”.</p> <p>Members thanked Rhonda Forgues and the Indigenous Relations Division for their work and identified the importance of “ally-ship” and the need to be ready to support non-Indigenous persons as we move forward with reconciliation</p>
4	<p><i>Other Business</i></p> <p><i>Councillor Gilroy – Circles for Reconciliation</i></p> <p><i>Roundtable sharing and closing comments</i></p> <p><i>Closing Prayer and Blessing from Elder Meade</i></p>	<p>Councillor Gilroy shared about her recent participation in a <i>Circles for Reconciliation</i> evening. The aim of these grassroots gatherings is to establish trusting, meaningful relationships between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples in response to the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.</p> <p>Small, diverse groups of individuals meet for a meal and guided discussion about a theme related to reconciliation. Everyone is encouraged to share from their experience. The initiative is based on the kinship notion that racism and ignorance are diminished as we get to know one another.</p> <p>More information is available at: http://circlesforreconciliation.ca/</p>
5	Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting	December 15, 2016