



Urban Reserve Strategy

Edmonton

June 28, 2021
Executive Committee

Strategy Development Intent

The Urban Reserve Strategy is intended to:

- provide an **overall guiding approach**
 - flexible and adaptable way to respond to each unique urban reserve proposal and relationship
- identify potential tools and approaches for City administration to consider

Strategy Scope

- ❑ Guide how the City works with eligible First Nations seeking to develop urban reserves **through the federal ATR/RC policy**
- ❑ We recognize that the First Nation, Federal, Provincial and municipal governments play roles in this process. The Strategy is limited to guiding the City's **municipal role** in the process
- ❑ Does not replace, modify or supercede roles, legislation or processes of other governments

Strategy Development Process

- ❑ Guided by a Steering Committee with members of City Administration, Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations, and Enoch Cree Nation.
- ❑ Representatives from Indigenous Services Canada and Alberta Indigenous Relations served as advisors.
- ❑ Strong focus on learning from other prairie municipalities with experience in urban reserves, such as Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, and North Battleford.

What are Urban Reserves?

An urban reserve is land designated as a First Nations reserve situated within an urban area. Eligible First Nations interested in developing urban reserves do so through the federal Addition-to-Reserve / Reserve Creation policy to expand their reserve landholdings.

First Nations, as with all governments, desire to create economic development opportunities and provide services to enhance the quality of life for their citizens. First Nations need to ensure access to resources and services to their citizens, which are offered most efficiently in centres such as municipalities. In some cases, First Nations also seek to obtain lands that have cultural significance.

The Strategy

Vision	Edmonton is a leader in reconciliation, developing mutually beneficial partnerships and relations that promote the cultural, economic, and social well being of Indigenous peoples. We will welcome and work with First Nations to meet their needs and aspirations.				
Values	TRUST	COLLABORATION	LEADERSHIP	RELATIONSHIPS	LEGACY
Guiding Principles	We will recognize and acknowledge the territory that we are on and provide land acknowledgments.				
	We will recognize the strengths and assets First Nations bring.				
	We will willingly share and honour everyone's wisdom, traditions, norms and experiences.				
	We will pursue long-term relationships, and recognize the long-term benefit of strong relationships with First Nation peoples.				
	We will respect, understand and appreciate the authority of each party.				
	We will support the journey of Reconciliation by applying the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a foundation for the Urban Reserve Strategy.				

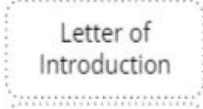
Process Map

ATR/RC
Process Steps



CoE Role

Led through the IRO



Proactive

Relationship Building Opportunities



Required

Municipal Service Agreement

Importance of Relationship-Building

Experience from other cities shows that taking the time to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations early can ensure urban reserves are most successful. Tools can include:

- Letter of introduction
- Elected officials meeting
- Memorandum of Understanding/Protocol Agreement
- Public signing ceremony
- Creation of Joint Planning Committee

Municipal Service Agreement Components

- Service Provision
- Fees for Services
- Bylaw Compatibility
- Dispute Resolution Framework

Future Focus

Urban Reserves represent an area of significant learning for the City. The Strategy includes a strong focus on ongoing learning and adjustment as the process becomes better understood. It will be reviewed and updated annually.

Thank you.

Edmonton

Roles for each Order of Government

First Nation	Municipality	Government of Alberta	Government of Canada (via ISC)
Band Council Resolution	No unilateral decision making authority or veto	No unilateral decision making authority or veto	Develops and applies ATR/RC policy
Complete Application for ISC	Must be consulted	Must be consulted; have a 3 month window to identify issues or concerns	Reviews ATR/RC application
Select and purchase land Collaborate with municipality: MOU, MSA	Collaborate with First Nation: MOU, MSA, relationship building, negotiation	Issue letter of support	Collaborate with First Nation to develop work plan
Meet obligations within MSA	Meet obligations of MSA		Submits urban reserve package to Minister