

INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

That the May 31, 2023, Community Services report CS01826, be received for information.

Requested Council Action		Information only	
ConnectEdmonton's Guiding Principle		ConnectEdmonton Strategic Goals	
CONNECTED This unifies our work to achieve our strategic goals.		Healthy City	
City Plan Values	BELONG. LIVE. THRIVE. CREATE.		
City Plan Big City Move(s)	Inclusive and compassionate	Relationship to Council's Strategic Priorities	Community safety and well-being
Corporate Business Plan	Transforming for the future		
Council Policy, Program or Project Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">City of Edmonton's Indigenous FrameworkTRC Municipal Response PlanMissing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Action PlanCommunity Safety and Wellbeing StrategyAnti-Racism Strategy		
Related Council Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CS01178, Indigenous Framework Annual Report, Community and Public Services Committee, May 30, 2022OCM01477, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Implementation Plan and Update, City Council, October 31, 2022CS01218, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Action Plan, Community and Public Services Committee, November 21, 2022		

INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL UPDATE

Executive Summary

- First approved on February 22, 2021 by City Council, the City's Indigenous Framework is an intentional step forward to meaningfully support Truth and Reconciliation efforts with Indigenous Peoples who live in, work in and connect with Edmonton.
- On May 30, 2022, the first annual update report CS01178 presented to the Community and Public Services Committee featured a description of the starting point implementation actions.
- This second annual update will highlight the Indigenous Framework's progress to date, focusing on four critical areas of the Framework's ongoing implementation including the building of a firm foundation, how the City worked together with internal and external partners, what actions occurred in 2022 and what Administration aims to achieve in 2023.

REPORT

The Indigenous Framework was co-created with more than 40 First Nations, Métis and Inuit organizations, community members, not-for-profit organizations, post-secondary institutions, government entities, and Elders, Knowledge Keepers and youth.

The first annual report (May 30, 2022 Community Services report CS01178) highlighted the relationship of three core elements that are critical to the implementation process of the Indigenous Framework:

- **Connection:** Center the relationships and guidance of Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to inform the direction of the Framework. A focus on building connections between City Staff, departments and community.
- **Education and Awareness:** Create educational toolkits and resources to enable staff from all departments to learn about the Indigenous Framework's four roles and seven commitments, as well as the Indigenous knowledge that guides the Framework.
- **Action:** Put learning to action by identifying and implementing actions within each City department as aligned with the four roles and seven commitments.

Reflecting on these core elements will continue to inspire the collective journey with the Framework now and into the future.

The second year update of the Indigenous Framework's implementation is presented in The City of Edmonton Indigenous Framework 2022 Annual Report (Attachment 1). To further build on the foundation previously established, the annual report identifies various touch points throughout 2022 relating to how and where Administration connected with the Circle of Elders and Knowledge Keepers for ceremony, wisdom and guidance needed to inspire the multi-dimensional aspects of this work.

It also reveals how Administration works together as a dynamic corporate team, with each City department having its own action plan, and how City staff continue to benefit from learning opportunities by participating in yearly Indigenous community events, internal Indigenous awareness and training and peer-to-peer learning through the integrated Community of Practice.

INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL UPDATE

The annual update illustrates how Administration continues to connect and work with Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Indigenous community partners involved in the development of the Indigenous Framework who have collectively expressed their desire for continued involvement during implementation.

The nurturing of kinship relationships with community partners, City Administration and City Council, has greatly contributed to actioning the list of collaborative projects summarized in the *How We Work Together* and *Project and Programs that align with the Framework* sections of the Annual Report.

The report concludes with a section about *What We Aim to Achieve in 2023* to illustrate what projects, events and initiatives are on the horizon for the remainder of this year.

In addition to the full Annual Report, a booklet (Attachment 2) was developed, complete with Indigenous graphic design, project photos and summarized content from the report. The booklet is intended to reach a wider readership.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Municipal Response Plan Second Quarter Update

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Municipal Response Plan prioritizes Administration's commitment to address the 94 Calls to Action. The initial plan outlines nearly 100 specific projects or initiatives to begin advancing on 38 of the Calls to Action. Additional work is underway to determine how the City can advance the remaining Calls to Action.

Administration committed to a quarterly update for the TRC Municipal Response Plan. Attachment 3 provides an update on current projects and initiatives addressing 25 of the Calls to Action underway thus far. The TRC Municipal Response Plan was approved at the October 31, 2022 City Council meeting (OCM1477) and a first quarter update report was provided to Council on March 14, 2023 (OCM1781). For ease and streamlined conversation, the second quarter report is included in this report as Attachment 3. The 2023 Indigenous Framework Annual Report will include a fulsome update on the progress of both the TRC Municipal Response Plan and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) 2SLGBTQQIA Action Plan.

Budget/Financial Implications

Through the Community Safety and Well-being Strategy, City Council approved funding for additional positions in the Indigenous Relations Office. One position is dedicated to enhancing support to the corporate implementation of the Indigenous Framework.

In the 2023-2026 Budget, City Council approved a service package for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Municipal Response Plan. Included in the service package is \$100,000 of ongoing funding for the Indigenous Framework Department Committees which will be leveraged corporate-wide to advance Indigenous Framework actions. An additional \$25,000 included as a part of that service package funds an Indigenous Framework Annual Gathering that is expected to take place in early fall 2023. This is a commitment Administration has made to bring Elders, Knowledge Keepers, senior leaders, staff and community together to share and celebrate progress of the Framework's implementation.

COMMUNITY INSIGHT

As a relationship-based City focused on making significant movement towards reconciliation, it is critical that the implementation of the Indigenous Framework continues to be firmly guided by the insights that are provided by Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Indigenous community partners. These insights were gleaned through practicing the four roles of Listener, Connector, Advocate and Partner within a variety of community interactions that occurred throughout the year including:

- Kinship building events with the Circle of Elders, Administration's Executive Leadership Team and City staff who are directly involved in the implementation of the Indigenous Framework. Examples include the December 1, 2022 Kinship with the Elders event held at the Prince of Wales Armory and the January 26, 2023 Elders and City Executive Leaders gathering held at Fort Edmonton Indigenous Peoples Experience.
- Connecting with Indigenous community partners who provide sacred spaces to learn about Indigenous ways of knowing and to participate in ceremonies. Examples include staff visits that occurred throughout the year at PÎYÊSÎW WÂSKÂHIKAN (pee-ay-soo was-kee-he-gan), the first dedicated Indigenous space located in the revitalized Stanley A. Milner Library.
- Engaging and involving broad cross sections of Indigenous Peoples and agencies for their feedback on City land use planning. Examples include the Zoning Bylaw Renewal and District Planning initiatives.
- Learning about, and participating in, Indigenous community events held throughout the year including National Indigenous History Month (June), National Indigenous Peoples Day (June 21) and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30). These national events are exceptional opportunities to celebrate Indigenous Peoples as part of the integral fabric of the work at the City and across Edmonton.

As community insight continues to guide the Indigenous Framework's implementation now and into the future it also serves to inspire City staff to discover their own personal reconciliation journeys by living out the four roles of Listener, Connector, Advocate and Partner.

GBA+

The goal and approach of the Indigenous Framework inherently addresses GBA+ principles by using an Indigenous worldview to advise the corporation how to address systemic barriers to become a more inclusive city. The Indigenous Framework was created to support the City of Edmonton in relationship building with Indigenous community members to inform the ways in which the corporation responds and relates to the needs of Indigenous Peoples. The Framework was developed through community engagement with over 40 Indigenous-led and Indigenous-serving organizations, Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers, community members and City of Edmonton staff.

Through this process, diverse experiences and perspectives provided the context to move forward with the Indigenous Framework in an equitable manner that suited the needs of the community and the City at that time. The ongoing commitment of the Circle of Elders that guides

INDIGENOUS FRAMEWORK - ANNUAL UPDATE

the Indigenous Framework provides an Indigenous understanding of equity and intersectionality that is rooted in relationality, ceremony and local understanding of needs. As the actions of the Indigenous Framework are completed uniquely across the corporation by various diverse departments, Department Action Teams are responsible to provide a GBA+ of work relating to programming and policy development. This work is part of an ongoing process of connecting, learning and maintaining good relations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Indigenous Framework 2022 Annual Report
2. Indigenous Framework 2022 Annual Report Booklet
3. Truth and Reconciliation Commission Municipal Response Plan - Action Update