

Memorandum

September 20, 2016

To: City Council

From: Mayor Don Iveson

CC: Linda Cochrane, City Manager
Members of Corporate Leadership Team

Subject: **First Nations-Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI)**

Background:

In August 2016, the City of Edmonton and Enoch Cree Nation were tentatively selected as one of four partnerships nationwide to participate in the current intake of the First Nations-Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI; pronounced *said-ee*). CEDI is a joint national initiative of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Cando (the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers). It is funded by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. Phase two of CEDI will span from 2016-2021 and involve up to ten partnerships introduced over the first three years; the City and Enoch would participate from 2016-2019.

The objective of CEDI is to enhance the community-to-community relationships of participating, neighbouring First Nations and municipalities, and facilitate a process of joint planning for community economic development and/or land use planning. First Nations and municipalities often have few natural venues for meeting together and have significantly different responsibilities to their constituents. The CEDI pilot phase has shown that by collaborating with an adjacent community *where it makes sense*, without compromising communities' legal jurisdiction, both communities and entire regions can see greater impact and benefits than they would by doing the same work alone.

During its pilot phase (2013-2016), CEDI supported six community partnerships and developed *Stronger Together*, a best practice Toolkit. CEDI partnerships undertook work in a range of areas: business attraction and tourism promotion (2), comprehensive tourism planning (2), a joint communication strategy, and a feasibility study and business plan for a regional food security project.

With facilitated support from CEDI program staff, the joint working group of City of Edmonton and Enoch Cree Nation elected officials and staff will determine specific area(s) to focus on during the project's early stages. There has been an ad-hoc working group made of various business units across the corporate structure that which have pulled together and indicated a strong desire to participate and build upon existing efforts/projects already underway.

Process and Next Steps:

1. Council Resolution: Formal participation in the program by adopting the resolution recommended (see Attachment 1). At present, and subject to change depending on direction from City Council, the Indigenous Relations Office (Citizen Services) will provide a dedicated staff resource (Staff Champion, as stated in Attachment 1).

No other dedicated resources will be required, however intermittent expertise and time from other business areas across the Corporate structure will be required on an as-needed basis. There also exist resources from Cando and FCM to assist in the progress of strengthening this relationship. More details will be available following the workshops.

2. First Joint Workshop: On the morning of September 28, 2016, key City staff and elected officials will attend a meeting hosted by CEDI to gain a deeper understanding of the program. On September 29, 2016, key City staff and elected officials will attend a joint workshop with key staff and elected officials from Enoch Cree Nation and hosted by CEDI with the goal of building relationships and identifying goals.
3. Cando Conference Panel and Announcement: The City of Edmonton and Enoch Cree Nation have been invited to attend Cando's 23rd Annual National Conference in Whitehorse, YT, and sit on a panel on the theme of First Nation-municipal collaboration on Thursday, October 6, 2016. Mayor Iveson and Chief Morin will prepare a pre-recorded video message to be shown during the panel, and key staff and elected officials will sit on the panel to address questions. CEDI would like to announce the Edmonton-Enoch partnership as part of this panel.

Recommendation:

City Council pass resolution stating the following;

Edmonton City Council agrees to the participation of their community in the First Nations – Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) from the date the resolution is passed to March 31, 2021. The Community Champions for the City of Edmonton shall be as follows - Mayor Don Iveson, Scott Mckeen, Tony Caterina or Michael Oshry, with support via the Indigenous Relations Office and other units as required.