

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 21, 2021

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Cynthia Moyle, Acting Clerk

SUBJECT: Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Motion # 1

THAT Committee of the Whole recommends Council waive the administrative fee for commissioning documents for residential school Survivors and their families who reside in the Municipality of Mississippi Mills to reclaim their names changed by the residential school system for a period of five (5) years.

Motion # 2

THAT Committee of the Whole recommends Council include The Indigenous Bicentennial Working Group (IBWG) as a working subcommittee to the Mississippi Mills Bicentennial Planning Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's final report in 2015 included 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, following recent discoveries of remains in unmarked graves across the country, leading to increased calls for all levels of government to address the recommendations in the TRC Calls to Action.

On August 23, 2021, the Association of Municipalities (AMO) published two resource papers to assist municipal councils' efforts to support Truth and Reconciliation.

The first resource paper provides an overview of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC's) Calls to Action that municipal governments can address. At the September 7, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, members identified the following three (3) calls to action:

TRC Call to Action #	Call to Action	Staff Comments
17.	We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.	The cost associated with commission documents is \$15. The recommendation is to waive fee for residential school Survivors who reside in the Municipality of Mississippi Mills for a period of five (5) years.
57.	We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.	Staff work with AMO and arrange training for municipal elected officials and staff with a date to be determined.
80.	We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.	Council adopted a resolution recognizing September 30, 2021 as National Orange Shirt Day. Municipal Buildings are flying the "Every Child Matters" flag. A candlelight vigil is being planned for Wednesday night on September 30 in support of families impacted by residential schools, with additional details being shared closer to the event.

The second resource paper entitled What Municipal Leaders Can Do To Better Support Indigenous Residents and Neighbours At This Time encourages us to be better neighbours and partners with Indigenous friends and communities. Mississippi Mills Council identified #6 – Create urban Indigenous-municipal advisory committee as one

way of being supportive and be part of the healing, learning and restoration needed to support reconciliation with Indigenous friends, neighbours and communities. A suggestion is to establish an Indigenous working subcommittee to the Mississippi Mills Bicentennial Planning Committee (MMBPC), responsible for planning activities to honour and celebrate our Indigenous history.

DISCUSSION:

N.A.

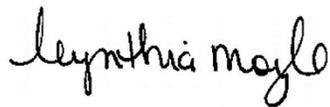
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

With the implementation of #17 waiving commissioning documents, the loss of revenue would be approximately \$105 over a five-year period.

SUMMARY

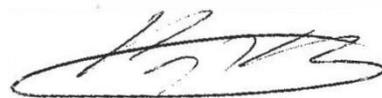
Mississippi Mills Council and staff are committed to honour and remember the survivors, their families and communities of the residential school systems.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Moyle
Acting Clerk

Approved by,



Ken Kelly
Chief Administrative Officer