



Richmond Teachers' Association

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January 5, 2023

Via E-Mail

Mr. Malcom Brodie, Mayor
City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Re: Truth and Reconciliation

Dear Mayor Brodie,

On behalf of the Richmond Teachers' Association, I am writing to express our appreciation with the Richmond City Council's November 21, 2022, decision at the General Purposes Committee to unanimously pass the following motion:

In conducting the analysis mentioned in the referral resolution of Council made on June 26, 2021, staff be specifically directed to address the implications of a Truth and Reconciliation Policy which may include the following suggestions:

- *regular meetings with the Musqueam Council (at least semi-annually, as requested by Musqueam Councillor Howard Grant at the June 14th, 2021, City Council meeting)*
- *mandatory staff and City Council training on issues of Indigenous-specific racism and decolonization (e.g., Hummingbird Rising Consulting, Kairos Blanket Exercise)*
- *a plan to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, that are relevant to municipalities (#s 17, 23, 40, 43, 47, 55, 57, 64, 75, 76, 77, 82, 87, 88, 91, and 92)*
- *a plan to implement the articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, that are relevant to municipalities (articles 11, 14, 15, and 19)*
- *honouring culturally significant sites through public identification of historical middens and archaeological sites, in consultation with the Musqueam*
- *offering annual community events in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation*

- *including Indigenous history on the City of Richmond's "History of Richmond" webpage*
- *appoint a committee or task force or a person in charge of addressing Indigenous issues (e.g., Indigenous Relations Manager).*

I understand from the minutes that there was a request to find out what other organizations and agencies, including the Richmond School Board, are doing with regard to Truth and Reconciliation.

The Richmond Teachers' Association, as a stakeholder within the Richmond School District, would welcome the opportunity to provide information about how Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action are being implemented in schools by teachers and how actions by the City of Richmond can support our work.

We acknowledge the work of Richmond teachers and citizens, Alisa Magnan and Katherine Myers, who petitioned city council to request the development of a Truth and Reconciliation Policy. We appreciate their work to engage the city in the important discussion of colonialist practices, Indigenous education and supporting Truth and Reconciliation.

We would welcome an opportunity to speak with you or attend a Council/Board Liaison Committee. We also encourage the city to regularly update the community and stakeholders with timelines and progress.

Sincerely,



Liz Baverstock

cc: Superintendent Scott Robinson
Board Chair Debbie Tablotney
Board Vice Chair Heather Larson