



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Council**

Subject: Acknowledging the Traditional Territory of First Nations

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From: Mayor van den Broek

Date: July 15, 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT at the beginning of each Council Meeting held in Council Chambers, the presiding member acknowledge that the land on which we gather is on the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support to adopt a resolution to acknowledge that Council meets on the traditional territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

POLICY:

N/A

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

The Treaty Commission encourages the public and educators to reach out to local First Nations to build relationships that can provide insights into a path to reconciliation. The City of Langley seeks to foster new relationships between Aboriginal peoples and all it's citizens, built on a foundation of openness, dignity, understanding and hope.

The process of reconciliation has involved creating space for survivors of colonization to speak the truth about the harms done to themselves, their families and their nations; for the broader community to acknowledge those harms; and for us to find a new pathway forward together.

It is essential to the process of reconciliation that this truth is acknowledged and responded to in a form that honours tradition while understanding the ambiguity created by modern institutions that were established without respect for the people or their traditions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Langley formally acknowledge that the City of Langley is on the unceded traditional territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations;

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to invite representatives from the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations to work with the Mayor to develop appropriate protocols for the City of Langley to use in conducting City business that respect the traditions of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

Respectfully Submitted,



Mayor Val van den Broek