



Aboriginal Housing – Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA)

Native Youth Centre (NYC)

Project Update



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Agenda

- Aboriginal Housing Update
- Background
- UNYA Project Update
- Suncor Land Donation
- Next Steps



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Aboriginal Housing Update

In January 2016 Council approved two reports outlining;

- City's commitment to advance the outcomes from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; and,
- support projects that deliver Aboriginal housing, social and cultural services which increase access and diversity of housing options for Vancouver's Aboriginal residents living off-reserve.

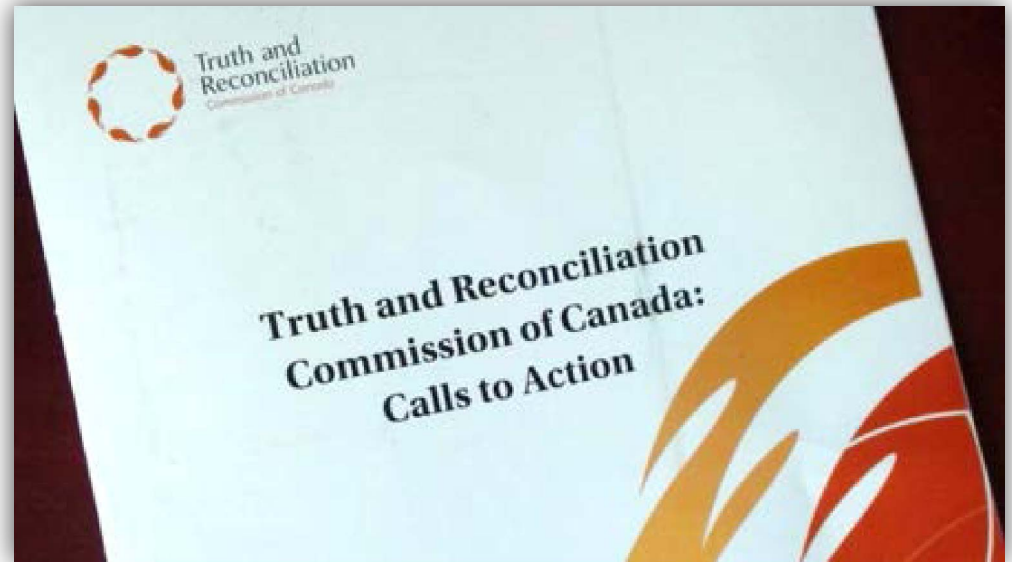


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TRC Calls to Action

There are 94 recommendations within the TRC Calls to Action final report.

27 were identified as actionable areas for the City to move forward on.



The TRC Calls to Action that align with the City's work can be summarized under three themes:

1. Healthy Communities and Wellness
2. Achieving Indigenous Human Rights and Recognition
3. Advancing Awareness, Knowledge, and Capacity



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City/MVAEC MOU recognizes that:

MVAEC and the City each have responsibilities towards their residents and members, and acknowledge that the interests of their communities are best served by working together in the spirit of cooperation.

The City and MVAEC will...

- Work collaboratively to identify common issues, better align services and combine resources to maximize community investments.
- Work together to explore ways to strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal organizations and associations to plan, lead and deliver initiatives for local urban Aboriginal communities.
- Work together to identify issues and priorities and develop partnerships and well-supported plans of action to achieve needed change.



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City of Reconciliation Vision Statement

“As a City of Reconciliation, the City of Vancouver will form a sustained relationship of mutual respect and understanding with local First Nations and the Urban Aboriginal community, including key agencies, to **incorporate a First Nations and Urban Aboriginal perspective into the work undertaken and decisions made by the City of Vancouver and, ultimately, to provide services that benefit members of these communities**”



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MVAEC Call to Action – Vancouver Housing & Wellness Response

*MVAEC Call: Create an immediate plan to construct
1,500 new social housing units across Metro
Vancouver by 2020*

Staff Response

- 4 site portfolio approach identified to work in partnership with Aboriginal agencies to support projects. **Potential for 600-700 social housing units**
- Multi-use housing projects with strong wellness/ community & cultural service components (partnerships)



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MVAEC Call to Action – Vancouver Housing & Wellness Response

Four Sites Recommended (Phase 1):

- 1 946 & 950 Main** – Aboriginal social housing project in DTES
 - Includes partnership with Lu'ma & BC Housing
 - Anticipation of 30 units and completion within 3 years
- 2 1015 E. Hastings** – Mixed-use project in DTES developed under VAHA.
 - Includes partnership for permanent Aboriginal shelter with VAFCS and BC Housing (nominal approval for shelter operating and capital)
 - Vancouver Coastal Health (integrated health centre)
 - Social housing above (early estimates: 175-220 units)
 - Anticipated completion within 5 years



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MVAEC Call to Action – Vancouver Housing & Wellness Response

Service-Led Projects with Complementary Housing

- 3. 1607 E. Hastings (Friendship Centre)** – Mixed-use project in partnership with VAFCS
 - Led by the vision to redevelop the Friendship Centre as a community and cultural centre for the region,
 - To include complementary housing for a mix of households, with a focus on Aboriginal elder and family housing.

- 4. 1618, 1630-1680 E. Hastings (UNYA)** – Mixed-use project in partnership with UNYA
 - Led by the vision to redevelop the Native Youth Centre to be a ‘state of the art’ youth centre
 - To include complementary housing for a mix of households, including Aboriginal youth and their families.



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Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA)



- Delivering services to Aboriginal youth since 1988
- Prevention-focused, youth-driven organization
- Work to empower Native youth by providing diverse opportunities



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Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA)

- 2nd largest of 30 Aboriginal non-profit organizations in Vancouver
- Only program-providing dedicated Aboriginal youth organization
- 20 programs, 100 staff, 170 volunteers, 265 partners

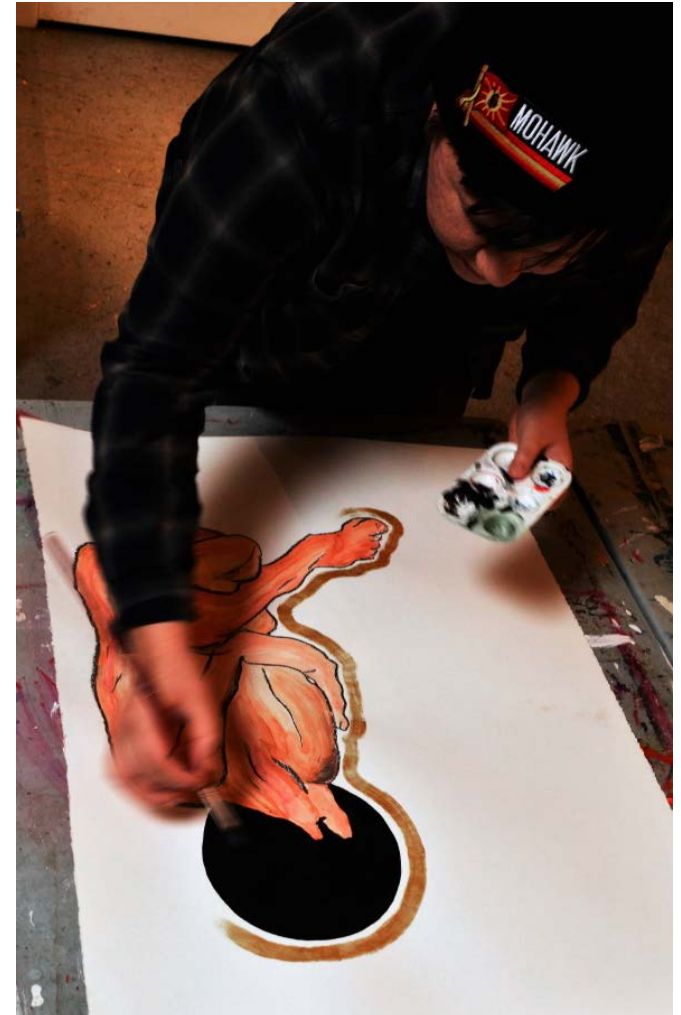




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Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA)

- 1 of 4 youth hubs in Vancouver
- The only Aboriginal hub
- ‘Hub model’ - important to success
- Since 2002, UNYA has grown significantly:
 - 13 to 20 programs
 - 2,000 to 26,000 annual visits
 - engaging more hard to reach youth





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Native Youth Centre (NYC)



- First envisioned in 2002, by Aboriginal youth
- Innovative, multi-purpose youth hub that will meet the needs of Aboriginal youth, outside of the DTES
- Will consolidate existing UNYA programs and provide much-needed space for enhanced programming



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Native Youth Centre (NYC)

- Since 2002, much work has been undertaken, including significant organizational and program development
- Native Youth Health and Wellness Centre (NYHWC) opened in Fall 2015 with funding provided by the City
- The 8th new program planned for the NYC that has since been implemented





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Native Youth Centre (NYC)



- Current space is too small to meet UNYA's needs, now and in the future
- Many programming and partnership opportunities are missed
- NYC will ensure UNYA has facilities and infrastructure in place to meet the current and future needs of Aboriginal youth



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Native Youth Centre (NYC)



Towards an Urban Aboriginal Housing and Wellness Strategy for Metro Vancouver 2015-2020



1500 units by 2020

It's about more than just housing...

- » Strengthen whole generations of families
- » Maximize opportunities for meaningful employment
- » Support Aboriginal students
- » Foster community wellness and cultural connections



- Through UNYA's partnership with VAHA, there is also fantastic opportunity to complement this innovative youth hub with approx. 220 units of affordable housing prioritizing Aboriginal youth and their families



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Native Youth Centre (NYC)

- UNYA and the City are pro-actively working together to realize the vision for the NYC and engage other partners
- One such instrumental partner is Suncor Energy Inc.
- Suncor has committed a large parcel of land to the Native Youth Centre.
- Discussion on the donation of land at 1680 East Hastings was first initiated by UNYA in 2004. In August 2016, a deed of gift was executed. On September 30th 2016, the land transfer closed.
- This gift from Suncor is valued at \$9.5 million



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Suncor Land Donation to UNYA



- This donation from Suncor is a tremendous investment in Native youth.
- This provides us with the land we need for the Native Youth Centre, complemented by affordable housing prioritizing Aboriginal youth and their families.



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Project Update

- The Housing Agency has been working closely with UNYA and staff from Housing Policy, Social Policy and Real Estate to finalize term sheets for the development
- The team is working on a development agreement to formalize the relationship to make the vision a reality
- The team has worked closely with Suncor and finalized the deed of gift for 1680 E Hastings
- UNYA is now working on an updated business plan and an updated functional program for the Native Youth Centre



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Project Update

- VAHA secured CMHC seed funding/financing of \$500k for the housing element of the project
- VAHA have submitted a response to the Aboriginal Housing EOI through BC Housing
- The City has already acquired one site and committed to acquiring the UNYA site as well as approved \$500k to the project to fund pre-development costs for the Native Youth Hub



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Next Steps

- Staff and UNYA to continue to work on finalizing the development agreement
- UNYA to finalize work on updating business plan and functional program, and fully develop fundraising strategy
- The Housing Agency will work with UNYA to develop an RFP for development partner in early 2017
- Fundraising –
 - \$30m required to support the development of the Native Youth Centre with a further \$5m to support an Endowment Fund.
 - \$30m required to deepen affordability for housing to reflect the housing needs of low to moderate income individuals and families