

6. FCM Resolution Regarding Proclaiming a Year of Reconciliation

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER: by Mayor Robertson

THAT the City of Vancouver submit the following motion to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for consideration at the 2014 Annual General Meeting:

PROCLAIMING A YEAR OF RECONCILIATION WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

WHEREAS reconciling past injustice, and strengthening shared understanding and awareness of history is vital to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in building a successful future for communities across Canada;

WHEREAS for over 100 years, Aboriginal children were removed from their families and sent to institutions called residential schools. The government-funded, church-run schools were located across Canada and established with the purpose to eliminate parental involvement in the spiritual, cultural and intellectual development of Aboriginal children. The last residential schools closed in the mid-1990s;

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) is a court-ordered commission established as part of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement reached by legal counsel for former students, the Churches, the Assembly of First Nations and other Aboriginal organizations, and the Government of Canada, and is expected to complete its report, compiled in part from residential school survivor testimony and documentation from and about the schools, in June 2015;

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver, City of Toronto and Union of BC Municipalities have all proclaimed a Year of Reconciliation to acknowledge the impact of residential schools and recognize the important work of reconciliation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Canadian Municipalities proclaim June 21, 2014, (National Aboriginal Day) to June 20, 2015, as a Year of Reconciliation.

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See links below for background:

- City of Vancouver: Year of Reconciliation proclamation <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/year-of-reconciliation-proclamation.pdf>
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission website <http://www.trc.ca>
- Reconciliation Canada website <http://reconciliationcanada.ca/>