

MOTION ON NOTICE

2. 150+ Place Naming Project

MOVER: Councillor Reimer

SECONDER:

WHEREAS

1. 2017 is the 150th anniversary of Confederation and under the banner of "150+" the City of Vancouver has committed to significantly advancing reconciliation this year;
2. The Indigenous place names on the land now occupied by Vancouver were all removed with the advent of colonization, effectively erasing the visible reality of thousands of years of continuous habitation of these lands and waters by the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh people;
3. Other cities have worked to not only repatriate Indigenous place names but also to create Indigenous design guidelines such as the Te Aranga Principles used in Auckland, New Zealand;
4. There are many examples where cities have worked to repatriate Indigenous place names alongside colonial names, working to recognize shared histories and support deeper historical understanding;
5. Vancouver grew quickly and many streets and civic assets were named in a narrow window of time by early colonial governments resulting in an over-representation of the ruling class at the time, and leading to the erasure of the impact of women and intercultural communities in defining our city and marginalizing these histories from our everyday life;
6. Vital contributions to Vancouver have been made by individuals representing all ethnic heritages, religions and genders;
7. Women are particularly under-represented: despite being over 50% of the population, women are reflected on a fraction of street names and public assets, and many of those as a result of a family relationship to a prominent male relative;
8. There are a number of unnamed civic assets in Vancouver.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver embark on a special "150+ Place Naming Project" with the following specific goals:

- (a) Name currently unnamed civic assets to better reflect the great diversity of the individuals who have made significant contributions to Vancouver;

- (b) Re-establish Indigenous place names on sites of importance including landscape features and village sites;
- (c) Create Indigenous Design Guidelines to guide future place naming and built form that is sympathetic to the Indigenous context;
- (d) Determine the circumstances when, if ever, a street or public asset name can be replaced;
- (e) Establish a registry of all plaques, monuments and other commemorations on public land and seek a partner to maintain the registry going forward;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff work with the three First Nations, consult with stakeholders, and report back to Council with an action plan for the "150+ Place Naming Project" no later than December 20, 2017.

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