

UNDRIP Task Force

Presentation of Final Report to City of Vancouver Council

October 25, 2022



Agenda

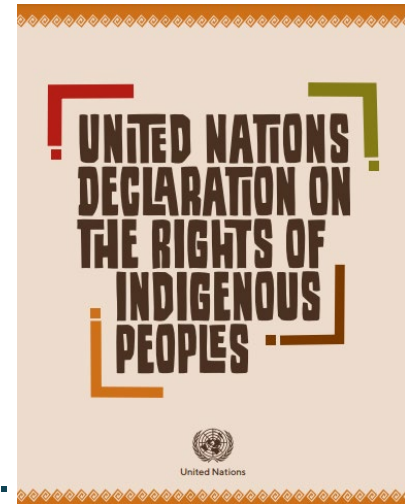
1. UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
2. UNDRIP Task Force
3. City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy
4. Recommendations for Vancouver City Council

1: UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

- Most comprehensive international human rights instrument regarding Indigenous Peoples.
- Establishes the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous Peoples.
- Elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms in their unique and specific application to Indigenous Peoples individually and collectively.



UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Includes rights related to:

- Self-determination & self-government
- Equality & non-discrimination
- Culture and language
- Identity
- Religion & spirituality
- Lands, territories & resources
- Environment
- Indigenous institutions & legal systems
- Health
- Education
- Community
- Respect & promote rights set out in treaties, agreements, & other constructive arrangements

Provincial and Federal Government Implementation of UNDRIP in Progress

Government of Canada

2021: Passed legislation to
implement UNDRIP

2022: Currently developing Action
Plan in consultation with
Indigenous Peoples



Government of B.C.

2019: Passed legislation to
implement UNDRIP

2021: Consulted with Indigenous
Peoples on draft Action Plan

2022: Released 5 year action plan
to implement UNDRIP

2: UNDRIP Task Force



UNDRIP Task Force Overview

- Task Force of the three Nations and City Councillors was established by a motion of City Council in March 2021, and first met in July 2021
- Since then, Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation and the City have been working collaboratively to develop recommendations ('Calls to Action') for City of Vancouver Mayor & Council on implementing UNDRIP at the City
- First process of this kind – truly collaborative process that has strengthened relationship between the four governments.



Task Force Membership

1. **Councillor Howard Grant**, Musqueam Indian Band
2. **Councillor Allyson Fraser**, Musqueam Indian Band
3. **Council Appointee Melissa Louie**, Musqueam Indian Band
4. **Council Chairperson Khelsilem**, Squamish Nation (Co-Chair)
5. **Councillor Kristen Rivers**, Squamish Nation
6. **Councillor Charlene Aleck**, Tsleil-Waututh Nation
7. **Councillor Dennis Thomas**, Tsleil-Waututh Nation
8. **Councillor Christine Boyle**, City of Vancouver (Co-Chair)
9. **Councillor Adriane Carr**, City of Vancouver
10. **Councillor Melissa De Genova**, City of Vancouver
11. **Councillor Jean Swanson**, City of Vancouver



The Task Force is supported by a Technical Committee of MST and COV staff

The Task Force's City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy

- The Task Force has collaboratively developed the City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy.
- The Strategy has 79 Calls to Action, grounded in UNDRIP articles and rights.
- This has been reviewed by external experts and advisors.
- The Nation's Councils have reviewed and endorsed this Strategy.
- Today, the Task Force is asking for City Council's endorsement of the Strategy.

Strategy Outline

The City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy includes 79 Calls to Action under the following categories:

Foundational Calls to Action

Calls to Action under the Four Themes

1. Social, cultural and economic well-being
2. Ending Indigenous-specific racism and discrimination
3. Self-determination and inherent right of self-government
4. Title and rights of Indigenous Peoples

Calls to Action re: Moving Forward (implementation)

3: City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy



Theme 1: Social, Cultural and Economic Well-Being

1.6 – Prioritize access to cultural sites for Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh people.

1.12 – Restore access for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh people to traditional harvesting sites for ongoing cultivation and stewardship.

1.13 – Identify ways to amplify and solidify meaningful Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh participation in building and sharing Vancouver's economic prosperity, including options for economic partnerships; revenue-sharing arrangements; ongoing funding agreements; redress agreements; allocation of property and other taxes to Nations; and City fee and tax waivers.

Theme 2: Ending Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination

2.3 – Co-develop and implement a policy to assess current and future industrial infrastructure development through the lens of Indigenous rights and title, and environmental racism, and include this in permitting decisions.

2.6 – Work with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh on the City's housing strategy, to adopt more culturally-informed approaches

Theme 2: Ending Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination

2.13 – Co-develop policies, programs, and processes to ensure that Indigenous people in Vancouver feel safe in accessing municipal services (health clinics, recreation, library services, engineering services, etc.) and are treated with respect, receiving the culturally safe and appropriate services that they deserve.

2.17 – Work with and recommend that the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) commit to integrating the articles of UNDRIP and include the applicable recommendations from the TRC commission and MMIWG reports into their operations, in consultation with Musqueam Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and the diverse Indigenous populations living in the city. [...]

f. Expand Vancouver Policy Board membership to include a representative from each of Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Theme 3: Self-Determination and Inherent Right of Self-Government

3.10 – Identify ways for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh to assert greater influence on City strategies, plans and projects based on genuine free, prior and informed consent rather than mere consultation.

- a. Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh need to be at the table at the earliest strategic opportunity, working in collaboration with the City which includes talking to community and working together through all the issues.
- b. Identify training options for City staff to understand UNDRIP and support free, prior and informed consent.

Theme 3: Ending Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination

3.12 – Develop staff-level cooperation agreements such as internships, secondments, and work exchanges that encourage cooperation, shared learning, exchange of policy research and analysis.

3.13 – Support Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh-led efforts to each have representation on Vancouver Park Board, Metro Vancouver Board and other regional boards (e.g. Board of Trade), tables, and bodies, with compensation for their participation.

Theme 4: Rights and Title of Indigenous Peoples

4.1 – Identify ways for City staff, elected officials, and the public to learn about the original Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh laws of these lands (as they wish to share), and to learn how colonial laws and abuse have impacted Indigenous Peoples and their laws. May include signage, public art, film, and other educational resources.

4.2 – Encourage staff and elected leadership to learn ways to bring colonial law and Indigenous laws together through dialogue and stories, to find common principles for the betterment of society, honouring Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh legal systems and ways of knowing.

Theme 4: Rights and Title of Indigenous Peoples

4.12 – Identify ways to support Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh to create cultural learning and healing centres/programs for education, training, and sharing of traditional knowledge, laws, languages and cultures of these lands.

- a. Programs and spaces would provide a means for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh youth and other community members to relearn their own traditional knowledge, languages and cultural practices.
- b. Programs and spaces would be a means to develop educational programming for schools and other places of learning to learn local Indigenous traditions, languages and histories.

4: Task Force Recommendations for Vancouver City Council



Task Force Recommendations for Vancouver City Council (1/2)

THAT Council endorse this Task Force report, City of Vancouver's UNDRIP Strategy, and direct staff to determine what is needed to implement each Call to Action, and report back to Council with an UNDRIP Action Plan with findings and next steps on implementation across City departments;

THAT Council direct staff to establish an inter-governmental process for carrying out this next phase of work, to facilitate Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh review of shared workplans, work prioritization and ongoing engagement;

THAT Council direct staff, in consultation with Musqueam, Squamish and TsleilWaututh, to develop a community-based UNDRIP engagement process with the diverse Indigenous populations living in the city;

Task Force Recommendations for Vancouver City Council (2/2)

THAT Council refer the City of Vancouver's UNDRIP Strategy to the Board of Parks and Recreation, Vancouver Police Board, Vancouver Public Library Board, and Vancouver School Board and encourage them to adopt the findings of the Task Force and collaborate in cross-departmental implementation to ensure their own policies and procedures align with UNDRIP;

THAT Council accept these Calls to Action as a pathway forward to building good relations on these Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh lands, guiding the City of Vancouver to take all measures necessary to ensure that its policies, laws, practices, and standards are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Next Steps

If endorsed by Council today, the next steps would be:

- The development of an Action Plan on implementation and maintaining an intergovernmental process for carrying the work
- Shaping a process for the Indigenous rights of the diverse Indigenous populations living in the city

