# The 10-Year Reconciliation Report

Indigenous Relations to Vancouver City Council

Oct 8th, 2024





## Acknowledgement



We respectfully acknowledge the unceded territory of the x<sup>w</sup>məðk<sup>w</sup>əýəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil Waututh) Nations. We are grateful to live and work on these lands and acknowledge the responsibility we have to ensure the land is taken care of respectfully.

## Purpose Today



This is the City of Vancouver's sixth City of Reconciliation update. The purpose is to update Council on the work underway related to Reconciliation, and to highlight new key achievements related to reconciliation by department from 2021-2024.

To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the City of Reconciliation, the report also provides a

## Agenda



- 1. Council Recommendations
- 2. Reconciliation Report: 2021-2024 Highlights
- 3. Celebrating 10 Years as City of Reconciliation
- 4. Key Highlights of UNDRIP Work
- 5. Discussion on Recommendations



#### Council Recommendations



- A. THAT Council directs staff to integrate all future Reconciliation and UNDRIP reporting into a single annual UNDRIP report to improve efficiency of reporting to Council.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to cease scoping a Colonial Audit and integrate objectives of the audit into the UNDRIP implementation program.



## Context & Background



## The City's reconciliation goals are:

- To establish and maintain mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in the City of Vancouver
- To uphold and advance the rights of Local Nations and urban Indigenous peoples.

To achieve its goals, the City uses the Reconciliation Framework, established on July 8, 2014, to guide its Reconciliation work.

## Reconciliation Framework

- Cultural Competency: All City staff should have an opportunity to learn and work with Local Nations and urban Indigenous communities. Staff should strive to create opportunities for Indigenous community members to engage in partnerships with the City, supporting learning opportunities for both.
- 2. Strengthened Relations: Strengthening our relationships starts with acknowledging the history of residential schools and the harmful impacts from the loss of land and culture. Continuing to build and strengthen relationships with Local Nations, as well as with the urban Indigenous community.
- B. Effective Decision-making: Our work with Local Nations requires a unique approach and understanding of the City's goals. Achieving mutual respect, strong relationships and economic empowerment requires flexibility.

## Reconciliation Report: 2021-24 Highlights



- Creation of the Indigenous Relations Department, and a Senior Director Role
- UNDRIP Strategy and Action Plan Development and Implementation
- Relationship Protocol with Squamish Nation
- Permanent Raising of Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Flags at City Hall
- Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), Calls for Justice and Red Women Rising Report
- Coast Salish Ceremony is now conducted at City Hall and integrated into operational processes

# Reconciliation Report: 2021-24 Highlights



- Gastown Public Spaces Plan
- Closing of Main and Hastings for National Indigenous People's Day Celebration in 2023 and 2024
- Reconciliation & Decolonization learning pathway for staff development
- Expanded the City's leadership competencies to include expectations for individual learning about Reconciliation
- Natural Environment Inventory and Network Project
- § Continued relationship with MVAEC, and establishing a process to engage regularly with the diverse population of Indigenous peoples living in the City





CoV motion to adopt UNDRIP

Council formally acknowledges the traditional and unceded territories of Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh

Council moves to designate Vancouver as a City of Reconciliation

2017

Hired an Indigenous Liaison in ENG, Reconciliation Planner at VPB

CoV engages with Local Nations on both Council to Council and a staff-to-staff level

CoV released the Aboriginal Health, Healing, and Wellness in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Study 2019

\$425,000 for Cultural grants to support Canada 150+ legacy and reconciliation

Council passed motion as The Year of Indigenous Languages in Vancouver

MCFD enabled CoV to provide \$292,500 in funding to MVAEC to fund ELCC

Basic level Cultural Competency staff training for over 350 staff

Creation of Permanent Local Nation Art Installations in Council Chambers

Development of two Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centers

Progress on 27 out of the 94 TRC Calls to Action through 41 City actions

Renamed Queen Elizabeth Theatre Plaza and the North Lawn with Local Nations Consultation

1,000+ staff received Cultural Competency training

Heather Lands Policy Statement was unanimously approved by Council in May

Council approved a 2-year planning program for Jericho Lands Policy Program

2015-2016

2018-2019



### 2022



Created new role for implementing recommendations for MMIWG2S Report

**194 Park Board Employees** took Reconciliation **Training** through CityLearn

Development of Indigenous Languages Action Plan

Creation of Indigenous Relations department and a **Senior Director** role

CoV and Local Nations partners passed the UNDRIP Strategy

**MMIWG2S** Response Report

First Indigenous Recruiter Role created

Equity Office to enhance Indigenous employee Support through Homewood Health

UNDRIP **Action** plan passed by Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and the City governments

Urban Indigenous **Data governance** through Healthy City Strategy

Staff training provided on UNDRIP

Council approved the Jericho Lands Policy Statement

Continuing the Indigenous Storyteller in Residence program at VPL

Established UNDRIP Task Force

Indigenous Language Revitalization

Cultural Infrastructure Grants

Anti-Racism and Cultural Redress Efforts

Support for Indigenous Youth through Arts and Culture

Signed Squamish Relationship Protocol

Permanent Local Nations Flags at CoV

Expanded CoV's leadership competencies to include UNDRIP

Cultural Indigenous Grants to Local Nations & Urban Indigenous groups

Embedded Squamish values in Healthy Waters Plan

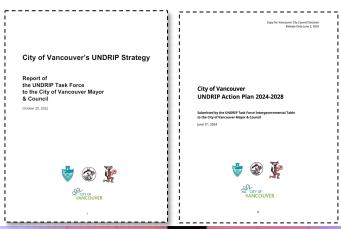






## **Key Highlights of UNDRIP work**

- Vancouver is the first municipality to co-develop a Strategy & Action Plan.
- The City has been formally recognized by the provincial Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation for this co-developed work
- We are strengthening our relationships between Councils and staff across all four governments
- We are **co-hosting staff learning opportunities** and sharing about the **partnerships** we're building
- We are creating transformative and systemic change in a place that once excluded Indigenous Peoples







#### **Council Recommendations**

- A. THAT Council directs staff to integrate all future Reconciliation and UNDRIP reporting into a single annual UNDRIP report to improve efficiency of reporting to Council.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to cease scoping a Colonial Audit and integrate objectives of the audit into the UNDRIP implementation program.





## **THANK YOU**

