

COUNCIL REPORT

Report Date:June 17, 2025Contact:Michelle Bryant-GravelleContact No.:604.871.6956RTS No.:17999VanRIMS No.:08-2000-20Meeting Date:June 17, 2025Submit comments to Council

Vancouver	City Council
	Vancouver

FROM: Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager

Recommendations

- A. THAT Trutch Street, as shown on the maps attached as Appendix A, be renamed šx^wməθk^wəỷəmasəm Street, in recognition of a request by x^wməθk^wəỷəm (Musqueam Indian Band) to change the name of the street, the gift of a həndəminəm name from x^wməθk^wəỷəm, and the City's work toward Reconciliation and strengthening relations with x^wməθk^wəỳəm.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward, for Council enactment, an amendment to the Street Name By-law generally in accordance with Appendix B.

Purpose and Executive Summary

Staff recommend that Trutch Street be renamed $\delta x^w m \partial \theta k^w \partial y \partial m as \partial m$ Street. The name for the street was gifted to the City of Vancouver by $x^w m \partial \theta k^w \partial y \partial m$ on September 30, 2022.

Council Authority/Previous Decisions

February 26, 2013 –Vancouver City Council passed a <u>motion</u> to proclaim June 21, 2013, to June 20, 2014, as the Year of Reconciliation. Vancouver City Council passed a <u>motion</u> to endorse UNDRIP.

June 20, 2013 – Vancouver City Council announced the <u>Year of Reconciliation</u> in an intercultural event with First Nations and multicultural leaders.

July 8, 2014 – Vancouver City Council reaffirmed its commitment to designate Vancouver as a <u>City of Reconciliation</u> and directed staff to report on next steps for healing and moving forward together.

July 7, 2021 - City Council passed a motion, attached as Appendix C, to rename Trutch Street with an alternative name chosen by $x^wm\partial\theta k^w\partial\dot{y}\partial m$ Chief and Council to reflect a reconciled relationship with First Nations Peoples.

March 9, 2021 - City Council unanimously adopted a <u>motion</u> to create a UNDRIP Task Force, who worked in partnership with $x^wm\partial\theta k^w\partial y^\partial m$, Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish Nation), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation), to develop the City's UNDRIP Strategy and UNDRIP Action Plan.

October 25, 2022 - Vancouver City Council passed the <u>City of Vancouver's UNDRIP Strategy</u> and 79 calls-to-action, which were the first of their kind for a municipality in the world, making Vancouver a world leader in implementing a clear strategy towards UNDRIP and Reconciliation.

City Manager's Comments

The City Manager concurs with the foregoing recommendations.

Context and Background

Trutch Street is a residential north-south street in Vancouver spanning approximately 18 blocks with 100 unique addresses. It is named after Joseph Trutch, the first Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia who was a racist and the chief architect of racist policies which inflicted immense and long-standing harm to First Nations Peoples. Trutch championed a colonial government policy which denied First Nations' title to their lands, blocked their right to acquire lands held by non-Indigenous residents, and massively reduced previously established reserve boundaries - effectively establishing a 10-acre (40,000 m²) maximum reserve size.

x^wməθk^wəýəm has long advocated for a change to the Trutch Street name to acknowledge Trutch's racist legacy, reduce the prominence of his name, and advance reconciliation efforts. In 2021, Vancouver City Council formally called for the change to take place and on September 30, 2022 x^wməθk^wəýəm gifted the name šx^wməθk^wəýəmasəm Street to the City, translated in English as "Musqueamview Street."

In accordance with x^wməθk^wəỷəm wishes, the legal name of the street will be solely šx^wməθk^wəỷəmasəm Street, making this Vancouver's first street named in həňdəmiňəm, the language of x^wməθk^wəỷəm. With no fluent speakers left, this change is a landmark moment for the revitalization of the x^wməθk^wəỷəm language, weaving the display of həňdəmiňəm into the public fabric of city life.

Supporting handaminami to once again be heard and seen throughout these lands and waters is a powerful tool for reconciliation and affirming the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Language is an essential part of culture and identity and it connects people to land and place. According to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the most comprehensive international instrument on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and a framework for reconciliation, "Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons" (Article 14). The TRC's Calls to Action 13 asserts that Aboriginal rights include Aboriginal language rights. The new $\check{s}x^wm\partial \partial k^w\partial \check{y}\partial mas\partial m$ Street sign blades are scheduled to be officially revealed to the public at a community gathering event scheduled for June 20, 2025 at St James Community Square.

Discussion

The həndəminəm language of x^wməθk^wəyəm is written in the North American Phonetic Alphabet (NAPA), which uses characters not yet accommodated by many English-primary technology systems.

Legal, Technology, and Emergency Services Implications

As this is the first time a Vancouver street has been renamed in a language other than English, input was requested from Legal, Technology Services, local emergency services, particularly Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services, the Vancouver Police Department, ECOMM 9-11 and BC Emergency Health Services.

There is no legal issue with having the legal street name in another language, as the City has the right to name its own streets under section 320 of the Vancouver Charter. The English translation (Musqueamview St.) will not be named in the by-law, but its use will be explained in prominent communications accompanying the name change as a translated name available for use while colonial systems work to accept multilingual characters.

For Technology Services, concerns were raised as addressing and mapping in many City systems cannot display the characters of $\check{s}x^wm\partial\theta k^w\partial\check{y}\partialmas\partialm$ St, which is also the case for external technology systems of partners such as Canada Post, TransLink, ICBC, and others who have legal requirements to use street addresses in their systems. To move forward, the project team recommended that these systems use the name " $\check{s}x^wm\partial\theta k^w\partial\check{y}\partialmas\partialm$ St" wherever possible, and those that cannot will use the name "Musqueamview St" with a footnote wherever possible stating "Musqueamview St is a translated name available for use while colonial systems work to accept multilingual characters."

For emergency services, concerns were raised about wayfinding and ease of pronunciation for callers in distress on the street. To address these concerns, staff propose posting two street signs on each post along the street, one with "šx^wməθk^wəỷəmasəm St" and one below with "Musqueamview St". Emergency response database systems also draw upon mapping data originating from the City, which can provide the name "Musqueamview St" when searched.

Addressing Implications

Canada Post was consulted on the name change to support impacted residents with a streamlined street name transition and ensure delivery of mail and packages. x^wməθk^wəỷəm selected an addressing option that works with Canada Post's addressing systems, which was communicated to residents as of June 6, 2025. Canada Post will also provide a year of free mail forwarding to affected residents. The mail forwarding service will ensure residents have uninterrupted mail service, ensuring they continue to receive personal mail and other important mailings such as tax slips, licenses and health card renewals.

x^wmə0k^wəýəm's chosen addressing option is:

Joe Jones 4110 šx^wməθk^wəỷəmasəm St 4110 Musqueamview St Vancouver BC V6N 4C8

Resident Notification

This change will impact 100 unique addresses. A resident notification letter was hand delivered to every address on June 6, 2025 to advise of the street name change two weeks prior to the scheduled day for the official street renaming, including information about addressing, mail forwarding service and other key details. Direct contact information for a community liaison was also included to support questions residents may have as well as a website link where information about the street renaming and an audio pronunciation of $šx^wm\partial\theta k^w\partialymasm$ St developed by $x^wm\partial\theta k^w\partialymasm$.

Public Inquiries

Ten public inquiries have been received over the past 3 years asking for updates and encouraging the City to implement the name change, including three inquiries from current residents on the street.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

If the Recommendations in this report are adopted by Council, Trutch Street will be renamed.

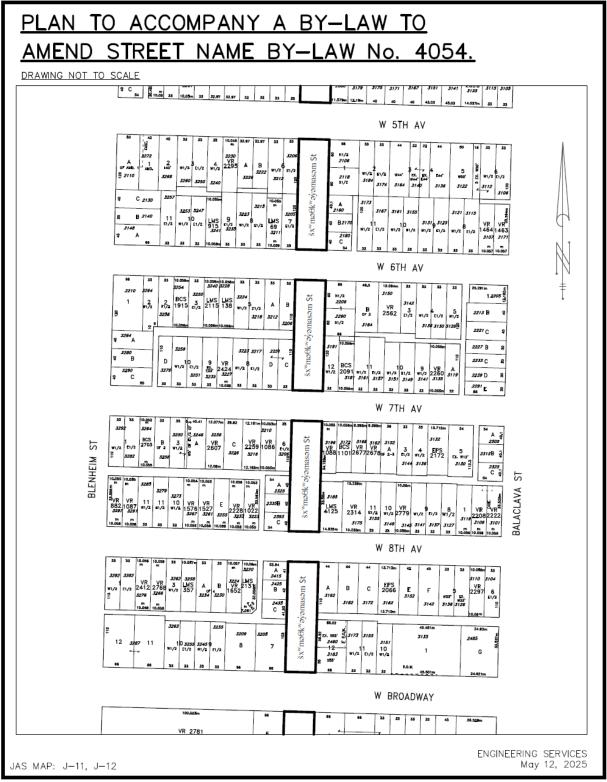
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L12201 TO ACCOMPANY A BY-LAW TO PLAN AMEND STREET NAME BY-LAW No 4054. DRAWING NOT TO SCALE POINT GREY ROAD 40 60 W 1ST AV VR1924 8 3 5 20.134 10.058 3128 3282 VR 1923 BCS 2709 712 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 šx^wmə0k^wəỳəmasəm St 1A Е BCS 1421 7 8 4 AND. 6 MG. 10 11 12 38.57 (er 719 3166 3148 3142 3136 5110 1/30 3112 oe i 46 52. 8 1731 A 3273 22 BCS 2567 VR 986 18 17 VR 945 15 14 BCS 4282 23 BCS LMS 1931 606 3181 3171 3163 18 VR 2552 1733 B 24 20 19 16 321 1745 C 788 3151 3145 \$1.52 3125 312 1747 D W 2ND AV 5 LMS 525 3240 CASE. LMS 2968 3 4 3176 šx^wmə0k^wəýəmasəm St 8 9 10 11 1826 B 12 3937 3 5 A C 3 S EX. N70' BLENHEIM ST 66 (AX BALACLAVA A 2332 3291 EPS 510 3251 22 21 LMS 1694 19 15 14 VR VR 930 929 3151 3147 22 21 18 BCS 1841 16 VR 1362 LMS 668 3103 28 327 14 1846 BCS 4487 3161 3157 W 3RD AV 87 \$ 1902 A 10.057 m 10.056 0.00 325 92 2 51/2 8 BCS 840 3216 VR 1965 šx™mə⊖k™əyəmasəm St ₽*1806* B 3170 VR 1973 7807 VR VR 1/2 22812280 3 1/2 3/54 3 VR #1/2 2755 5 1/2 EPS 6123 w1/2 3236 E1/2 m/2 1 1/2 2 *1/2 ₩1/2 С 191 3228 320 3180 87 3160 3140 3130 3124 3116 3108 A.438m 60.295 44 60.342 1 5255 LMS 2744 1965 A 1998 5161 NAT 25 3151 12 11 N NO 12 LMS 4059 1981 EPS 1254 8 UMS 4259 W 4TH AV 50,139 25.118 100.547 s *1015* 6 3150 LMS1651 VR 2360 VR 1127 VR 2737 šx^wmə0k^wəýəmasəm LMS 3853 10 3270 3220 32 5250 2050 A 2060 9 B \$ 4<u>8</u> .1,1 VR 454 10 в VR 1083 *317*9 A VR 449 C *317*3 D 3171 E 3167 F 3151 G 5141 VR 2826 *3125* 2070 9 C в 311 A 705 W 5TH AV 192 33 33 H1/2 ENGINEERING SERVICES May 12, 2025 JAS MAP: J-11

APPENDIX A – Maps of Street Segments to be Renamed

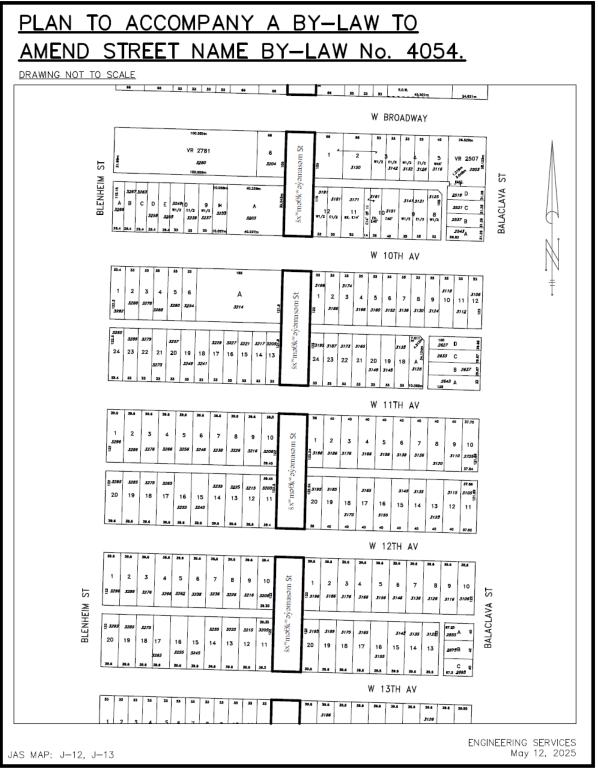
Y: \LAND_SURVEY\JAS\Street Name\LF12201- šx"mə@k""əyəmasəm St - v1.dwg

L12201



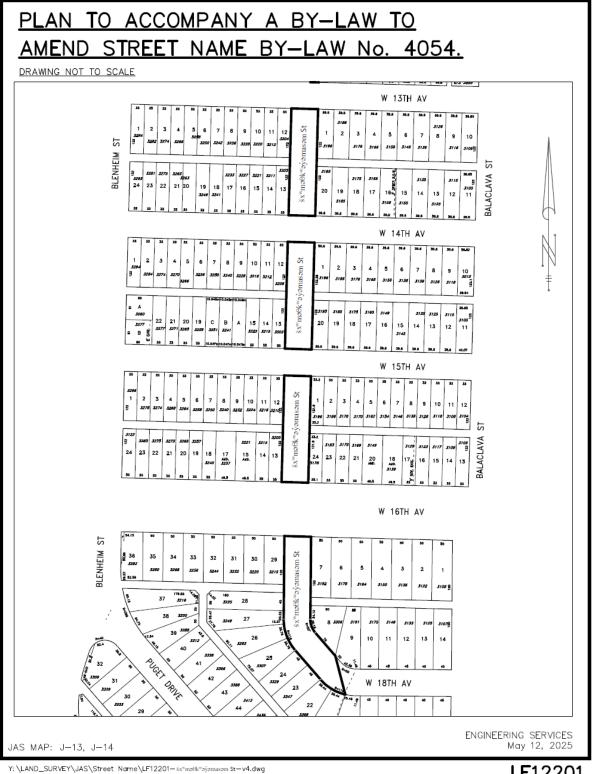
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L12201



Y: \LAND_SURVEY\JAS\Street Name\LF12201- šx"mə@k"əjəmasəm St- v3.dwg

L12201



APPENDIX B – Amendment to the Street Name By-law

BY-LAW NO. A By-law to amend Street Name By-law No. 4054 regarding šx^wmə@k^wəỷəmasəm Street

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, in public meeting, enacts as follows:

- 1. Council amends the Street Name By-law No. 4054 by:
 - deleting the name "Trutch Street" and assigning the new name "šx^wməθk^wəỳəmasəm Street" to those portions of public street outlined in bold black on plan marginally numbered LF 12201, attached to and forming part of this By-law; and
 - (b) adding to the "Official Street Name Map of the City of Vancouver", which is the plan marginally numbered L325, attached to and forming part of the Street Name Bylaw No. 4054, those portions of public street named "šx^wməθk^wəỷəmasəm Street" located as shown on the plan marginally numbered LF 12201.
- 2. A decision by a court that any part of this By-law is illegal, void, or unenforceable severs that part from this By-law, and is not to affect the balance of this By-law.
- 3. This By-law is to come into force and take effect on the date of its enactment.

[NOTE – APPENDIX A OF THIS REPORT WILL BE ATTACHED TO THIS BY-LAW FOR ENACTMENT]

ENACTED by Council this day of

, 2025

Mayor

City Clerk

APPENDIX C – Council Motion from July 2021

MOTION

4. Toward Reconciliation: Renaming Trutch Street (Motion B.3)

At the Council meeting on July 6, 2021, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on July 7, 2021, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

MOVED by Mayor Stewart

WHEREAS

- 1. The City of Vancouver has a North-South street in Kitsilano named after Joseph Trutch called Trutch Street;
- Joseph Trutch was an English-born engineer and surveyor who served as the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works under Governor Frederick Seymour and the first Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia;
- 3. Joseph Trutch was a racist and the chief architect of racist policies which inflicted immense and long-standing harm to First Nations People;
- Trutch championed a colonial government policy which denied First Nations' title to their lands, blocked their right to acquire lands held by non-Indigenous residents, and massively reduced previously established reserve boundaries - effectively establishing a 10-acre (40,000 m²) maximum reserve size;
- The City of Vancouver became a City of Reconciliation in 2014 and promises to review Vancouver's colonial and racist past as well as make changes to reflect a reconciled relationship with First Nations People; and
- 6. The Musqueam Indian Band has requested the City of Vancouver rename Trutch Street.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back on the most expeditious way to rename Trutch Street with an alternative name chosen by the Musqueam Indian Band;

FURTHER THAT Council direct the Mayor to undertake appropriate consultation with Musqueam Chief and Council;

AND FURTHER THAT Council confirms it is open to considering similar requests from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

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