

MINISTRY OF CITIZENS' SERVICES Executive Committee	
	November 15, 2017
	10:00 - 12:00 pm
	s.15

Attendees: Jill Kot, Sarf Ahmed, Colin McEwan, Ian Donaldson, Sunny Dhaliwal, Ian Bailey, David Curtis, Bobbi Sadler, Trish Rorison, Denise Moreau, Mike Nielsen

Absent: Susan Stanford, Bev Dicks, Jeannette Cook

Guests: Doug Caul, Laurel Nash

Time	Topics	Ministry Lead(s)
10:00 am	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)	Doug Caul, Laurel Nash (material)
11:00am	DM Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Previous Minutes DM Committees 	Jill (verbal)
11:15 am	Standing Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly FOI Reporting TB Tracking GCPE Update / Minister's Calendar Staffing Update / Recognition 	Sarf Colin Trish, Jill All
11:35 am	Holdbacks Update	Colin (material)

Upcoming Excom Agenda Items:

- Nov 22: DM Project Board – Hayden Lansdell
- Nov 22: Procurement Strategy – Overall Approach – Bobbi
- Nov 29: Verified Organization Network Blockchain Initiative – Ian, Bev, John Jordan
- Annual Workforce Planning Review - Colin, Jody – (15 mins)

Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX

From: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 1:00 PM
To: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Subject: Re: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Yes, they're hoping to be first on the agenda on Nov. 15.

From: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Sent: October-24-17 11:25 AM
To: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Did we decide on Nov 15? I don't the meeting invites to MIRR folks... am updating the Excom agenda.

Thx.

From: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 11:30 AM
To: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Subject: FW: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Will this work with the agenda?

From: Howie, Matthew IRR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Cc: Howie, Matthew IRR:EX
Subject: RE: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi Diane,

What time is our exec to present? Doug Caul has a meeting that came up for that day that ends at 10:00 AM. Is it possible to have our exec on your agenda for around 10:30 AM?

Matthew Howie
A/Senior Executive Assistant to
Doug Caul, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
Phone: 250-356-1394

From: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Howie, Matthew IRR:EX
Cc: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Subject: Re: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi - yes, Diane will send today.

Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 20, 2017, at 4:02 PM, Howie, Matthew IRR:EX <Matthew.Howie@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Jeanette,

Will the invite come soon?

Matthew Howie
A/Senior Executive Assistant to
Doug Caul, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
Phone: 250-356-1394

From: Westaff, Melissa IRR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 8:28 AM
To: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi Jeanette,

Nov 8 is confirmed – please send invites out to Doug Scott, Neilane Mayhew, Laurel Nash and Rachel Holmes. The presentation can be for 30 minutes and you can have them start at the beginning of the meeting.

Thanks,
Melissa

From: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 1:37 PM
To: Westaff, Melissa IRR:EX
Cc: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Subject: FW: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi Melissa,

As discussed, we'll look at the Nov 8 Executive meeting and add in Doug Scott. If you could let me know how much time would be appropriate for the presentation and if there are any preference for timing between 10 – noon, then Diane can send out a meeting invite.

Many thanks.

JC

From: Westaff, Melissa IRR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Subject: RE: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi Jeanette,

I have reached out to MIRR executive and Associate DM Neilane Mayhew, Assistant DM Laurel Nash and Rachel Holmes would be available to attend the weekly meeting on Nov. 1.

Laurel and Rachel will prepare a presentation.

Thank you,

Melissa Westaff

Administrative Coordinator
Deputy Minister's Office
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
250-953-3541

From: Cook, Jeannette MTIC:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 8:46 AM
To: Howie, Matthew IRR:EX; Westaff, Melissa IRR:EX
Cc: Taylor, Diane Ruth MTIC:EX
Subject: FW: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Hi Melissa,

Jill Kot would like to invite MIRR to attend one of our upcoming Executive meetings to provide an Indigenous Relations Update, much like the one that was delivered to DMs in preparation for the First Nations Leaders Gathering.

Our meetings are held weekly on Wednesdays, between 10:00 – noon. Please let me know if something can be scheduled.

Many thanks.
JC

Jeannette Cook | Director, Executive Operations
Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Citizens' Services
Ph: 250 387-8817 | **e:** jeannette.cook@gov.bc.ca

From: Howie, Matthew ABR:EX **On Behalf Of** Caul, Doug D ABR:EX
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 10:49 AM
To: BCPSA Agency DMC Admin & Operational Support
Cc: Mayhew, Neilane ABR:EX
Subject: RE: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Apologies. The link wasn't included.

See the updated note below.

From: Howie, Matthew ABR:EX **On Behalf Of** Caul, Doug D ABR:EX
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 10:44 AM
To: BCPSA Agency DMC Admin & Operational Support
Cc: Mayhew, Neilane ABR:EX
Subject: UNDRIP/TRC Implementation

Colleagues:

As you are aware, all ministers' letters include a commitment to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The letters also calls for the review of policies, programs and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the declaration into action.

In the near term, Richard Fyfe and I are planning a joint briefing with our Ministers to get initial direction. There will also be a Cabinet level discussion in late-August that will provide further direction. Once we have clearer direction, we will provide you further information.

In the meantime, I would encourage you to read

UNDRIP: http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf. You will note that the majority of the declaration is aimed at subjects including human rights and equality, language, culture, media, education, economic and social conditions, health, and self-determination, in addition to indigenous people's right use and develop land and resources, and to participation in decision making regarding land and resources and legislation and administrative measures. Note that while the federal government has clarified that implementing UNDRIP does not mean "veto", we can all anticipate the importance of directly and deeply engaging First Nations in many areas of our work, particularly where a program, policy or legislation has the potential to affect indigenous people in British Columbia.

Finally, many ministries have undertaken efforts and initiatives aimed at the TRC Calls to Action. We will work with you to provide that information to ministers and seek direction of further actions and priorities. We may call upon you to assist in updating this information.

Doug



Reconciliation Overview

*Developing a Vision for Reconciliation in BC and
What it Means for You*

Region to Region

October 30, 2017

Objective

This presentation and dialogue will provide you with a foundational understanding of:

- government's overarching commitments to reconciliation;
- our role in engaging in reconciliation as public service employees; and,
- what you can expect next.

This presentation is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather to serve as a departure point for future conversations and initiatives.

Indigenous Peoples in B.C.

- More than 230,000 people in BC identify as Indigenous - representing one in six Indigenous people in Canada.
- Indigenous includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit.
- Over 70% of Indigenous people live 'off-reserve'
- In total, there 203 First Nations in B.C. (of 600 in Canada), and they represent 34 distinct languages. In fact, 1/3 of all Indigenous languages in Canada are spoken here in BC.

Why Reconciliation?

- Colonialism and the treatment of Indigenous peoples, for example through residential schools, has left a legacy of inter-generational trauma.
- The impacts of this trauma continue to be compounded across the province – and Canada – for example, through deeply entrenched racism, programs and services that have been developed without an understanding of Indigenous perspective or cultural safety, and an array of other issues.
- As a result, Indigenous people simply do not share the same quality of life as other British Columbians – on every indicator – from health, education, housing, employment, and life expectancy.



Why Reconciliation?

For example:

- While over 5% of the population is Indigenous, Indigenous children account for approximately 60% of children in care (more than were in residential school);
- Indigenous women are more than twice as likely than non-Indigenous women to report intimate partner violence;
- While the Indigenous population is BC's fastest growing, with 50% of people aged 25 and under, the unemployment rate for the working-age Indigenous population is more than twice the rate for other Canadians of the same age;
- The high-school graduation rate of Indigenous students is approximately 63%, compared to the provincial average of 84%.

Why Reconciliation?

Government has a responsibility and a critical role in changing these outcomes through: policy and legislation, delivery of services, taxation and investment, and in publicly championing a respectful and collaborative relationship with Indigenous communities to accomplish this.

While it is important to acknowledge the damaging impact of colonialism on Indigenous communities, it is equally important to acknowledge the resilience of these communities and the significant opportunity to improve outcomes for ***all*** British Columbians by leveraging Indigenous knowledge and perspective.

Defining Reconciliation

There is no one, commonly held definition of reconciliation; however, in the BC / Canada context, we find two widely respected visions:

Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada:

'Reconciliation' is about establishing and maintaining a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country.

Reconciliation Canada:

- Recognition of the historical context and residential school legacy of unresolved trauma is a critical component of reconciliation.
- Reconciliation will take the commitment of multiple generations.
- Collective efforts from all peoples are necessary to revitalize the relationship.
- Relationships must be built on dignity and respect for cultural difference.
- Reconciliation touches upon all social, economic, cultural aspects AND includes First Nations governance and jurisdiction.

Defining Reconciliation

“There has to be awareness of the past, acknowledgement of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour.”

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Our Commitment

Government has articulated recent commitments to reconciliation through mandate letters of all ministries. Specifically:

- Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation's (MIRR) responsibility to work in collaboration with First Nations and Indigenous peoples to develop a vision to guide the adoption of UNDRIP, the TRC Calls to Action, and the Tsilhqot'in Decision.
- The responsibility of all ministries to move forward on the TRC Calls to Action and to review policies, programs, and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of UNDRIP into action.
- A diverse array of individual ministry mandates that are either explicitly reflective of, or implicitly aligned with, Indigenous interests.

UNDRIP – What is it?

- UNDRIP was adopted by the United Nations in 2007, after almost 25 years of negotiations.
- UNDRIP seeks to ensure recognition of the collective and individual rights of Indigenous peoples, including their rights to self-determination, to determine their political status and organization, to autonomy and self-government, and to their lands, territories and resources.
- In June 2015, the TRC called upon all levels of government to implement UNDRIP as a framework for reconciliation and to develop a national action plan to achieve UNDRIP goals.

United Nations
DECLARATION
on the **RIGHTS**
of **INDIGENOUS**
PEOPLES



United Nations

UNDRIP – What is it?

- Key themes of the 46 Articles are broad in focus – and are all rights that many of us take for granted. Key themes include:
 - fundamental human rights and freedoms;
 - self-determination and internal governance;
 - preservation of cultural, spiritual and religious traditions
 - education and communication;
 - consultation - including free, prior and informed consent;
 - lands and resources; and
 - social and economic conditions.

UNDRIP – What is it?

- A common misconception is that UNDRIP is a legally binding document that requires governments to create or alter legislation.
- UNDRIP is fundamentally a comprehensive human rights document, and should be approached holistically to support improved socio-economic outcomes for all Indigenous peoples.
- Governments have a broad array of options and mechanisms to implement UNDRIP – including through program and policy development, the implementation of new service delivery mechanisms, and the creation of engagement and partnership opportunities.
- Ultimately, a critical element to adopting UNDRIP is to focus on the way in which government works with Indigenous peoples to identify opportunities that align with the intent of UNDRIP's various Articles.

TRC – What is it?

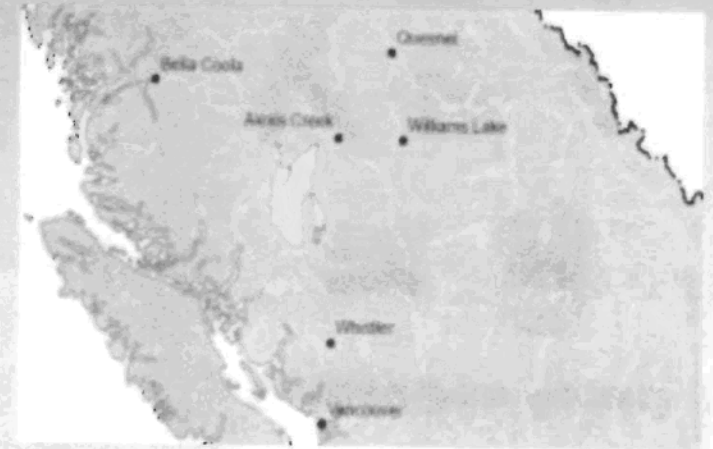
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was a component of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, with a mandate to inform all Canadians about what happened in Indian Residential Schools (IRS).
- The TRC documented the truth of survivors, families, communities and anyone personally affected by the IRS experience. And the TRC provided recommendations on how to address the legacy of IRS and advance reconciliation.
- The TRC undertook a significant engagement process across all jurisdictions to collect information and inform its recommendations.

TRC – What is it?

- On June 2, 2015, the TRC released its findings and 94 Calls to Action, under two broad areas of 'Legacy' and 'Reconciliation'.
- 'Legacy' recommendations are really reflective of 'what was lost' to generations of families impacted by residential schools - such as language and culture.
- 'Reconciliation' recommendations reflect the desire to create a better future that acknowledges this shared history and identifies opportunities to improve relationships and outcomes.
- Some of the Calls to Action are directed towards organizations and institutions beyond federal and provincial governments, such as post-secondary institutions, First Nations' governments, churches, the health sector, and corporations.

Tsilhqot'in Decision – What is it?

- On June 26, 2014, the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) delivered its judgment in the Williams case - otherwise known as the 'Tsilhqot'in Decision.'
- The SCC declared Aboriginal title over an estimated 1,700 square kilometers of land, representing approximately 40% of the area claimed by the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) in the court case.
- The Decision was historic for two reasons:
 - first time a court has declared Aboriginal title; and
 - provided more clarity around the extent of Aboriginal title (not postage-stamp, site specific areas).



Tsilhqot'in Decision – What is it?

- Following the decision, the Province worked closely with the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) to develop a series of transitional agreements that would ensure supports and structures (such as emergency management) could be maintained in the interim.
- In February 2016, the Province and TNG signed the Nenqay Deni Accord, a five-year framework agreement for further negotiations on topics such as governance, economic development, health, justice, education, social issues, and land and resource management.

Nenqay Deni Accord



Considerations

It is important to note that Government's recent commitments to reconciliation do not replace the important work being done across all ministries related to Indigenous communities.

For example:

- The Ministry of Health continues to provide cross-government leadership on the MOU on the Social Determinants of Health – in partnership with the First Nations Health Council.
- The Ministry of Children and Family Development has played a key leadership role on the Tri-Partite Working Group on First Nations Children and Families.
- The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation has signed the Métis Nation Relationship Accord on behalf of the Province.

These relationships and agreements continue to be important to the Province and will inform our approach to our reconciliation commitments.

Considerations

There are also important considerations with respect to the federal government.

For example, in July 2017, the federal government released *Principles Respecting Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples*.

The Principles were developed to guide the federal public service in its ongoing relationship with Indigenous peoples.

Specifically, the Principles are intended to:

- guide Canada's review of laws and policies;
- support achievement of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through a renewed, nation-to-nation, government-to-government, and Inuit-Crown relationship; and
- serve as a starting point for the Crown to engage in partnership, and a significant move away from the status quo.

Considerations

International jurisdictions such as Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland also provide a number of lessons regarding reconciliation and the role of government. Where these jurisdictions have been successful in improving relationships and outcomes, the following commonalities have been observed:

- Government has a cohesive and consistent vision / approach to reconciliation that is broadly understood and championed at the executive level.
- Engagement is comprehensive and inclusive – public, private and non-profit sectors; community organizations; Indigenous government, organizations and citizens; the public, and others.
- Outcomes are well-defined and measurable, so that successes (or lack thereof) can be measured and reported on – both for accountability and continuous improvement.

What does this mean for us?

Leadership in Ministries is in the process of:

- Identifying opportunities to meaningfully include Indigenous communities and leadership in the development of a 'vision', and in response to government's reconciliation commitments.
- Articulating an approach to fulfil the mandate commitment to review policy, legislation and programs – across all ministries - so that they are aligned with the UN Declaration.
- Identifying opportunities to engage the public, communities, other levels of government, and other provincial partners in reconciliation.
- Developing opportunities to support increased education and awareness of public service employees as champions of reconciliation.

The public service must play an active role in all of this

What does this mean for us?

All public service employees have a responsibility to support these commitments in the work that we do every day: to educate ourselves, increase our awareness and understanding, and to engage in opportunities to improve our relationships and partnership with Indigenous communities.

This touches on every single role in the public service – whether it is through engaging Indigenous communities more directly and comprehensively in the development of policy and programs; considering cultural safety in the way in which we deliver our services; or considering holistic approaches and needs when developing and approving funding and investment.

Be comfortable with not knowing. Be curious. Ask questions. Be humble.

Resources

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission:
 - www.trc.ca
- UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
 - http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf
- Reconciliation Canada
 - <http://reconciliationcanada.ca>