



P.O. Box 5035  
300 Dufferin Avenue  
London, ON  
N6A 4L9

November 7, 2016

Chair and Members  
Corporate Services Committee

Re: Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory at Meetings of Council and Standing Committees

As you know, the City of London, geographically, is a nearby neighbour to three First Nations Communities: Oneida Nation of the Thames, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation and Munsee Delaware Nation. In addition, due to the fact that a serious housing shortage exists in each of those communities, as many as fifty per cent of their members live within the geographical limits of the City of London at any given time.

Acknowledging territory shows recognition of, and respect for, Indigenous Peoples. It is a recognition of their presence on these lands both in the past and in the present. Recognition and respect are essential in order to establish and strengthen, healthy, reciprocal relations. These relationships are key to the reconciliation process, a process to which London City Council has indicated its commitment through past resolutions. Please see attached resolutions of Council from December 8, 2015 and April 19, 2016.

Currently, only two municipalities in Ontario formally acknowledge the traditional territory of the First Nations peoples at the beginning of their meetings of Municipal Council – Toronto and St. Catharines. Beginning each meeting of Council with this recognition of respect for the First Peoples of this land, will be a powerful show of this Council's commitment to building an ever stronger relationship with them. In committing to acknowledge the traditional territory, the City of London will establish itself as a leader and serve as an example to other municipalities looking to improve their relationship with the First Peoples of Canada.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the following recommendation be supported:

"That each meeting of Municipal Council BE COMMENCED with the Chair making the following statement:

'We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendt, Attawandaron, and Lenape Indigenous peoples. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties, including Treaty 6, The London Township Treaty.'

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Cassidy  
Ward 5 Councillor

Tanya Park  
Ward 13 Councillor



**London**  
CANADA

P.O. Box 5035  
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December 9, 2015

M. Brown  
Mayor

V. McAlea Major  
Managing Director, Corporate Services and Chief Human Resources Officer

C. Saunders  
City Clerk

K. Graham  
Director, Community and Economic Innovation

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on December 8, 2015, resolved:

That, on the recommendation of the Director, Community and Economic Innovation, the following actions be taken with respect to the municipal implications of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report:

- a) the Civic Administration and the Mayor's Office BE DIRECTED to participate in the Big City Mayors' Aboriginal Partnership and Reconciliation Working Group, with regular progress updates to be provided to the Municipal Council, through the appropriate standing committee;
- b) the staff report dated December 7, 2015 BE RECEIVED for information;
- c) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee with a plan to act on two recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report being Recommendation 57, related to intercultural competency training for municipal employees; and Recommendation 77, related to municipal and community archives working with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system; it being noted that this report should include a work plan and overview of the budgetary implications of completing the work plan;
- d) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult and collaborate with the London Public Library with respect to Recommendation 77 noted in part c) above; and
- e) the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee on developing a prominent memorial in London, acknowledging the history of Canada's residential school system and its former students. (2/2/SPPC) (AS AMENDED)

C. Saunders  
City Clerk

cc: J. Purser Manager of Records and Information Services  
R. Armistead, Manager, Culture  
S. Hubbard-Krimmer, London Public Library  
Corporate Services Committee Deferred  
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee Deferred



**London**  
CANADA

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April 20, 2016

Mayor M. Brown

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2016 resolved:

That the following actions be taken with respect to the follow-up on the municipal implications of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report:

- a) the staff report dated April 18, 2016, which includes the FCM document entitled "First Nations - Municipal Community Infrastructure Partnership Program (CIPP)", BE RECEIVED;
- b) the ~~attached~~ additional document entitled "Terms of Reference – BCMC Aboriginal Partnership and Reconciliation Working Group" BE RECEIVED; and
- c) the Mayor BE DIRECTED to meet with representatives of the local First Nations to discuss opportunities for strengthening relationships between the First Nations and the City of London. (4/12/SPPC)

C. Saunders  
City Clerk  
/hw

cc: K. Graham, Director of Community and Economic Innovation Division

**From:** Chief LWhite-Eye  
**Sent:** Monday, November 07, 2016 1:20 AM  
**To:** Cassidy, Maureen  
**Subject:** Re: Traditional Territory

Hello Maureen,

This is worded really well. It's respectful of the many people's who have called this place home over time. It's a recognition of the diversity that has existed in and around London region since its inception and it also references the treaty relationships that exist as a result.

Miigwech for your continued leadership on building stronger relationships between the City and Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

I fully support this action in creating awareness as a significant first step.

Kind Regards,  
Leslee

Leslee White-Eye  
Ogimaa Kwe (Chief)  
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation  
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