



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

London  
CANADA

October 15, 2021

Chair and Members of Corporate Services Committee

**Re: Deferred Council Directions Concerning Indigenous Relations**

Dear Colleagues,

With the ongoing search to uncover the unmarked graves of Indigenous children at the sites of former residential institutions across Canada, it is more important than ever to acknowledge the societal harms of our colonial history and to increase our efforts towards building and strengthening relationships between First Nations Communities, Indigenous Londoners and the City of London. Relationship-building is an ever-evolving process that requires on-going commitment.

During the seven years that I have served on London City Council, there have been many initiatives that we have undertaken – both politically and administratively - to further the principles and ideals of Truth and Reconciliation.

At the City Council meeting of December 6, 2016, City Council passed the following motion:

“That clause 6 [*concerning a land acknowledgement at meetings of City Council*] BE REFERRED back for further consultation with the Indigenous Community with respect to the proposed statement.”

At the City Council meeting of May 16, 2017, City Council passed the following motion:

“That the request to invite the Munsee-Delaware Nation, the Oneida Nation of the Thames and the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation to provide their flags and have them raised in an appropriate manner at London City Hall BE REFERRED to the Civic Administration in order to allow for consultation and report back with respect to this matter.”

Finally, earlier this year, Civic Administration posted and filled a new position - Indigenous Community Liaison Advisor. This is a very positive step and demonstrates our commitment towards building strong and respectful relationships with London’s community members and neighbours.

Therefore, I am seeking support for the following motion:

That the above-mentioned City Council directions BE REFERRED to the Indigenous Community Liaison Advisor for a report back with respect to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Cassidy  
Councillor, Ward 5