



Indigenous Engagement Framework

Update on Activities from the Indigenous Advisory Committee & from City Activities
To Timmins City Council
By Councillor Kristin Murray & Dave Landers
January 11, 2022



Mission



The vision of the Indigenous Engagement Framework is to, “To educate, engage and enlist the community in the dream of Reconciliation in Timmins.”

The City of Timmins Indigenous Advisory Committee will work to create a respectful process of truth, healing and reconciliation within the City of Timmins. In doing so will create an inclusive environment for the Indigenous peoples living and visiting the City of Timmins.



Activities to Date



Addressing Human Needs

- ▶ Continued to collaborate with the Cochrane DSSAB and Living Space to ensure the safest possible shelter services were available during the pandemic.
- ▶ Worked collaboratively with the Living Space to ensure adequate winter shelter services and cold weather alerts during 2020–21.
- ▶ Timmins accepted 150 evacuees from the community of Pikangikum during the 2021 evacuation season. The total duration of the evacuation was 31 days, all the while ensuring COVID–19 protocols were in place including 24/7 on site nurses and access to a physician.



Activities to Date





Activities to Date



Delivering on the Calls to Action

- ▶ The Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC) met throughout the year, with a hiatus during the state of emergency and lockdown.
- ▶ Additional members from the education sector were added to the Indigenous Advisory Committee.
- ▶ At the recommendation of the Indigenous Advisory Committee, Cultural Competency/Sensitivity training for the City was approved under Resolution #21-164.
- ▶ The City of Timmins is participating in the Timmins Economic Development Corporation's Anti-Racism Action Program.
- ▶ Reception for the Walk of Sorrows
- ▶ Orange Shirt Day



Activities to Date





Activities to Date



Delivering on the Calls to Action (cont.)

- ▶ Timmins Transit bus was wrapped in Orange with “Every Child Matters” emblazoned on the wrap in September and had significant recognition. The social media post on this was also one of, if not the most, successfully shared social media items the city has ever seen. It was shared over 3,700 times, it had over 29,000 separate engagements by people – meaning: likes, comments or clicks – and it reached a total of 288,337 people.
- ▶ September also saw the orange crosswalk painted in partnership between Public Works and the Downtown Timmins.
- ▶ Another partnership with the BIA occurred with the Mural Walking Tour during Treaty Week.
- ▶ The IAC Chair participated in the Golden Manor redevelopment consultation process.



Activities to Date





Activities to Date



Delivering on the Calls to Action (cont.)

- ▶ By way of Council Resolution # 21-144, the City now recognizes the following days
 - National Indigenous Languages Day – March 31
 - National Awareness Day for Missing and Murdered Indigenous women and Girls – May 5
 - National Indigenous History Month – June
 - National Indigenous Persons Day – June 21
 - Orange Shirt Day – September 30
 - Sisters in Spirit vigil – October 4
 - Treaty Recognition Week – 1st Week in November
 - Inuit Day – November 7
 - Indigenous Veterans Day – November 8
 - Louis Riel Day – November 16



Activities to Date



Delivering on the Calls to Action (cont.)

- ▶ The City of Timmins launched an Indigenous Engagement & Inclusion page on its website (<https://www.timmins.ca/cms/one.aspx?portalId=11976429&pageId=17775958>).
- ▶ The minutes of the Indigenous Advisory Committee are also available (<https://timmins.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Id=1618>).
- ▶ Through the support of Newmont Porcupine, video clips aired on CTV to provide information around the finding of unmarked graves at residential school sites.



Activities to Date



Economic Alliance

- ▶ Throughout the pandemic, we continued to meet virtually with the representatives of the Mushkegowuk Council to further progress on the Mushkegowuk–Timmins Relationship Agreement (see attached work plan).
- ▶ Under the MTRA, Mayor Pirie facilitated a leader–leader conversation between the Mushkegowuk Chiefs and the Ministers of Northern Development & Mines/Indigenous Affairs and Environment, Conservation & Parks. Key areas of focus included sustainable development and the commitment to establish a Treaty Table.



Activities to Date





Activities to Date



Timmins Museum

- ▶ Support to Indigenous artists and artisans through:
 - Partnership with Niska Arts Co-operative (and Mennonite Central Committee) to carry work by Indigenous arts and artisans in the gift shop – on-going
 - Indigenous artist and artisan fair
 - Workshops led by indigenous artists in beadwork, sewing and dream catcher design; all accompanied by traditional teachings.



Activities to Date



Timmins Museum

- ▶ Presenting a more comprehensive and inclusive view of Indigenous life in the Timmins area:
 - An agreement between the Timmins Museum and the Mattagami First Nation and the Taykwa Tagamou Nation was reached for the transfer of archeological pieces from the Yellow Falls site; work continues on the actual transfer and storage of the artefacts for the First Nations at the museum.
 - Strengthening relationship with Ojibwa Cree Cultural Centre and new Executive Director Tristan Lebrun to create new events and activities focussed on Treaty Week in 2022



Activities to Date



Timmins Museum

- ▶ Support to Indigenous community through workshops, partnerships and educational opportunities by:
 - Offering tours of the Indigenous Mural project with the assistance of Kristin Murray
 - Week-long celebration commemorating National Treaty Week (November 2021) featuring workshops, tours of the murals and a special screening of “Trick or Treaty” documentary
 - Discussions with Indigenous liaison with the school boards regarding issues of cultural sensitivity.



Activities to Date





Photo credits



Thanks to Amanda Dyer, Communications Coordinator for the photos, and to Dariya Baiguzhiyeva from TimminsToday.com for the photos from the walking tour