

NOTICE OF MOTION

To: Mayor and Council
From: Councillor Wright
Date: March 19, 2024
Subject: Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Action

The date for this motion to be considered is at the April 8, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council directs staff to bring a report back outlining the progress that has been made in reaching the goal of: "Adopt and make progress on the specific Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Action identified for local Government."

BACKGROUND:

A current District of Mackenzie Council Strategic Priority is listed as follows:

Priority	Community & Social Development
Goal	The District's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation paves the way for stronger community ties to our neighboring First Nations.
Action	Adopt and make progress on the specific Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Action identifies for local Government.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released 94 "Calls to Action." In this commission, the TRC believes five of these Calls to Action are within the authority of a municipal government. They are:

- **#43:** We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.
- **#47:** We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts.

- **#57:** We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.
- **#75:** We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children.
- **#77:** We call upon provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives to work collaboratively 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, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no budgetary impact to this request.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Councillor Jesse Wright