



**MAYOR'S INDIGENOUS ADVISORY CIRCLE
MEETING NOTES**

December 20, 2021

Meeting called to order at 10:04 a.m. and adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Brian Bowman
Kimberley Puhach, Chairperson
Elder Lucy Guiboche
Elder Norman Meade
Councillor Sherri Rollins
Councillor John Orlikow
Alan Greyeyes
Manley A. Begay Jr.
Damon Johnston
Sean McCormick

REGRETS:

Elder Harry Bone
Elder Mae Louise Campbell
Dr. Cindy Blackstock
Dr. Phil Fontaine
Jessica Dumas
Dee Thomas-Hart
Ry Moran

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE:

Ericka Fritzsche, Policy Analyst, Mayor's Office
Cecil Sveinson, Manager, Indigenous Relations Division
Sherwood Armbruster, Special Projects Manager, City Clerk's Department

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: March 7, 2022

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No.	Item	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order • Opening Prayer by Elder Lucy Guiboche • Review and Acceptance of Notes of September 14, 2021 Meeting 		
1	Mayor's Update	<p>Mayor Bowman greeted members and acknowledged disappointment that due to the emergence of Omicron and a fourth wave it was deemed necessary to meet virtually today.</p> <p>All members were encouraged to take time to care for mental, physical and spiritual health over the Holidays and to stay safe. The pandemic has been a longer marathon than anyone expected and the community is relying on members as community leaders.</p> <p>It was noted that on the day after the last Circle meeting, the flags of Treaty One First Nations, Dakota Nations and the Metis Nation were permanently raised at City Hall.</p> <p>On October 28, 2021, Winnipeg City Council voted to add a permanent symbol to the Council Chamber to honour the land on which the City of Winnipeg is situated on.</p> <p>The Mayor attended the Sacred Fire to honour Helen Betty Osborne in the City Hall courtyard on November 19, 2021. A quiet and peaceful ceremony reminded us of the importance of our work on the MMIWG and the Calls to Action.</p> <p>A mural to invoke connectedness and spirit by artist Jeanie White Bird was unveiled at City Hall for Human Rights Day on December 10, 2021.</p> <p>The Mayor conveyed appreciation to members for their hard work and commitment to community this past year and expressed anticipation in regard to ongoing opportunities to work together in 2022.</p>
2	Chair's Report	<p>The Chair welcomed members and noted that tomorrow is winter solstice of 2021. It brings the good news that days will start getting longer as we head towards spring. Appreciation was expressed for the presence of the Elders and the work of the Indigenous Relations Division.</p> <p>In particular, the September, 2021 Indigenous Accord signing ceremony at City Hall was a highlight.</p>

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3	Indigenous Relations Division Update	<p>Cecil Sveinson, Indigenous Relations Division, provided an update on the work of the Indigenous Relations Division.</p> <p>There are now 205 Indigenous Accord Partners, including 5 new partners since the September, 2021 signing ceremony.</p> <p>The Welcoming Winnipeg Committee of Community members continues to meet monthly. Their ongoing work includes progress on the renaming of Bishop Grandin Boulevard and Grandin Street.</p> <p>Please see the attached presentation for the full, detailed Indigenous Relations Division report.</p>
4	New Business	<p>A concern was raised about the upcoming renewal of the urban Indigenous Strategy with the Federal Government. General discussion ensued regarding the importance of this critical funding to local non-profits and NGO's in our community.</p> <p>It is encouraging that there has been a new expression of engagement from the provincial government and this comes with some hope and expectation that actions must follow.</p> <p>The Elders reminded members that the economy cannot be fixed without a spiritual foundation. Programs alone won't solve societies problems, we need strength of character and the work of the Great Spirit.</p> <p>Members were advised that the Mayor's office occasionally receives correspondence from third parties on various matters. As the Circle is an informal group and membership is public, third parties are encouraged to communicate directly with members if they wish to do so.</p>
Closing Prayer by Elder Norman Meade		
Adjournment and Dates of Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 7, 2022	