



## Motion Memorandum

**SUBJECT:** Recognition of September 30th as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in the City of Burlington

**TO:** **Mayor and Members of Council**

**FROM:** Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

**Date to Committee:** Council Motion

**Date to Council:** September 21, 2021

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### **Motion for Council to Consider:**

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report on June 2, 2015, which included 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation; and

Whereas the recent discoveries of remains and unmarked graves across Canada have led to increased calls for all levels of government to address the recommendations in the TRC's Calls to Action; and

Whereas all Canadians and all orders of government have a role to play in reconciliation; and

Whereas Recommendation #80 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission called upon the federal government, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process; and

Whereas the City of Burlington is committed to meeting the TRC's Calls to Action as they apply to municipalities and supporting the Indigenous community spreading awareness on the history of residential schools; and

Whereas the Federal Government has announced September 30th, 2021, as the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (National Orange Shirt Day) and a statutory holiday;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the City of Burlington does hereby commit to recognizing September 30th, 2021, as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

(National Orange Shirt Day) by sharing the stories of residential school survivors, their families, and communities.

**Reason:**

Recent discoveries of remains and unmarked graves across Western Canada have led to increased calls for all levels of government to immediately address the recommendations in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action.

All Canadians and all orders of government have a role to play in reconciliation. The TRC's 94 Calls to Action are addressed primarily to the federal, provincial, and territorial governments but also to municipal governments, the corporate sector, and the broader Canadian society. They cover a wide range of government responsibilities including child welfare, education, language and culture, health, justice, commemoration, museums and archives, training for public servants, and a few specific initiatives related to reconciliation.

The AMO Board of Directors is encouraging municipalities to recognize September 30<sup>th</sup> as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (also known as Orange Shirt Day) with the adoption of the above motion.

**Outcome Sought:**

That in recognition and support of Indigenous people across Canada, by way of recognizing September 30<sup>th</sup> as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, will further demonstrate that the City of Burlington is committed to working toward reconciliation and meeting the TRC's Calls to Action as they apply to municipalities.

**Vision to Focus Alignment:**

- ☐ Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- ☐ Improve integrated city mobility
- ☐ Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- ☒ Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
- ☐ Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

Motion Seconded by: Councillor Shawna Stolte, Ward 4  
Share with Senior Staff ☐

Approved as per form by the City Clerk,

Reviewed by the City Manager - In accordance with the Code of Good Governance, Council-Staff Relations Policy and an assessment of the internal capacity within the City to complete the work based on a specific target date (quarter/year).

**Comments:**

City Clerk:        Approved as per form.

City Manager:    Approved