

City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy

Presented by: Councillor Dennis Thomas (Tseil-Waututh
Nation) & Councillor Boyle (City of Vancouver)
February 9, 2023



Agenda

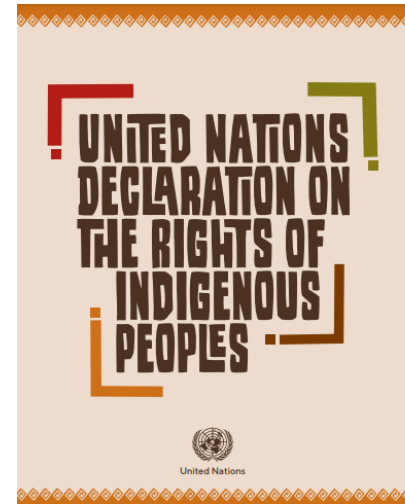
1. UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
2. City of Vancouver UNDRIP Task Force
3. City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy
4. Next Steps for Working Together

1: UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

- Most comprehensive international human rights instrument regarding Indigenous Peoples.
- Establishes the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of Indigenous Peoples.
- Elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms in their unique and specific application to Indigenous Peoples individually and collectively.



Provincial and Federal Government Implementation of UNDRIP in Progress

Government of Canada

2021: Passed legislation to implement UNDRIP

2022: Currently developing Action Plan in consultation with Indigenous Peoples



Government of B.C.

2019: Passed legislation to implement UNDRIP

2021: Consulted with Indigenous Peoples on draft Action Plan

2022: Released 5 year action plan to implement UNDRIP

2: UNDRIP Task Force



UNDRIP Task Force Overview



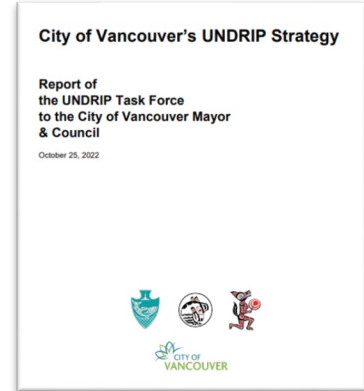
- Task Force of the three Nations and City Councillors was established by a motion of City Council in March 2021, and first met in July 2021
- Since then, Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation and the City have been working collaboratively to develop recommendations ('Calls to Action') for City of Vancouver Mayor & Council on implementing UNDRIP at the City
- First process of this kind – truly collaborative process that has strengthened relationship between the four governments.

3: City of Vancouver UNDRIP Strategy



COV UNDRIP Strategy

- The Task Force collaboratively developed the COV UNDRIP Strategy.
- Strategy was reviewed by external experts and advisors.
- The Nations' Councils and COV Council have reviewed and endorsed this Strategy.



The Strategy has 79 Calls to Action, grounded in UNDRIP articles and rights, under four themes:

1. Social, Cultural and Economic Well-Being

2. Ending Indigenous-Specific Racism and Discrimination

3. Self-Determination and Inherent Right of Self-Government

4. Title and Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Sample of the 79 Actions from the COV UNDRIP Strategy

- 1.12** “Restore access for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh people to traditional harvesting sites for ongoing cultivation and stewardship”.
- 2.3** “Co-develop and implement a policy to assess current and future industrial infrastructure development through the lens of Indigenous rights and title, and environmental racism, and include this in permitting decisions”.
- 3.10** “Identify ways for Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh to assert greater influence on City strategies, plans and projects based on genuine free, prior and informed consent rather than mere consultation.”
- 4.1** “Identify ways for City staff, elected officials, and the public to learn about the original Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh laws of these lands (as they wish to share), and to learn how colonial laws and abuse have impacted Indigenous Peoples and their laws. May include signage, public art, film, and other educational resources.”



4: Next Steps for Working Together



Task Force Recommendation for Vancouver City Council

“THAT Council accept these Calls to Action as a pathway forward to building good relations on these Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh lands, **guiding the City of Vancouver to take all measures necessary to ensure that its policies, laws, practices, and standards are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**”

“THAT Council endorse this Task Force report, City of Vancouver’s UNDRIP Strategy, and direct staff to **determine what is needed to implement each Call to Action**, and report back to Council with an UNDRIP Action Plan with findings and next steps on implementation across City departments”

Engaging with Urban Indigenous Communities in 2023

- To date, focus has been on the foundational work of the government-to-government relationships with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh and the City
- An important next step in the UNDRIP process is to engage with the diverse Urban Indigenous community in the city
 - This will be a City-led process, running parallel to the intergovernmental process with the Nations

Summary of Next Steps for 2023

- Develop and implement UNDRIP engagement process with the diverse Urban Indigenous community
- Establish inter-governmental process to continue this work (e.g., Intergovernmental Table and supporting Committees)
- Determine what is needed to implement Calls to Action, and report back to Council with a co-developed UNDRIP Action Plan (2023/24)

