

Request for Decision

Title	Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action Report
Proposed Motion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council direct Administration to continue to advance Sturgeon County's efforts towards Truth and Reconciliation and other related actions identified within the August 23, 2022 Request for Decision. 2. That Council continue to actively collaborate with Alexander First Nation, Michel First Nation, and other Indigenous communities on progressing further meaningful actions for consideration.
Administrative Recommendation	That Council support Sturgeon County's Truth and Reconciliation efforts, continue to actively collaborate with First Nation communities, and direct Administration to support the progression of Truth and Reconciliation action items.
Previous Council / Committee Direction	<p><u>July 13, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council</u></p> <p>Motion 408/21: That Council direct Administration to identify areas of municipal responsibility within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 2015 Calls to Action Report and seek input from neighbouring Indigenous administrations to advise Council of the corporate support and governance considerations for implementing the identified Calls to Action.</p> <p>Motion 409/21: That Council direct the Mayor to send a letter to the City of St. Albert, Alexander First Nation, the Michel Band, Enoch Cree Nation, Poundmaker's Lodge, and the Métis Nation of Alberta, acknowledging Sturgeon County's part in regional history, and declaring our intent to collaborate with First Nations and regional neighbours to understand the truth and work towards reconciliation.</p>
Report	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the July 13, 2021 Council meeting, Council directed Administration to undertake research to understand the municipal responsibilities within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 2015 Calls to Action Report (see Attachment 1). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The Truth and Reconciliation Report (TRR) includes 94 Calls to Action. The recommendations in this report are meant to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation.

- Residential schools, which have caused traumatic, intergenerational effects on Indigenous Peoples, operated in Canada between the 17th century until the late 1990s, are a key aspect of colonialism. According to the Government of Canada, it is estimated that residential schools were imposed on at least 150,000 Indigenous Peoples.
- There are six categories featured in the TRR: child welfare, education, health, justice, language, and culture.
- The five Calls to Action that reference municipalities include:
 - 43: Canadian Governments and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - 47: Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation;
 - 57: Professional Development and Training for Public Servants;
 - 75: Missing Children and Burial Information; and
 - 77: National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
- There are nine Calls to Action that call upon “all levels of government”. The three levels (or branches) of government in Canada include the executive (Cabinet), the legislative (Parliament), and the judiciary (the courts). This does not necessarily include municipalities in Canada.
- Since the Calls to Action are subject to interpretation, there is no consensus specifically on which actions municipalities should undertake.
- While the TRR specifically notes five Calls to Action that reference municipalities, there are additional Calls to Action that may be appropriate for municipalities to address. Administration has therefore identified 14 Calls to Action in the TRR that Sturgeon County could further explore and potentially address in the future, pending Council’s direction (see Attachment 2).
- Since Council’s 2021 motion to explore Truth and Reconciliation in a municipal context, Sturgeon County has been engaging in conversation and meaningful connection with several Indigenous communities. This includes Sturgeon County’s neighbours to the west, Alexander First Nation (*Kipohtakaw*) and with Michel First Nation. Additional communications have also been extended to other communities. Some activities to date include:
 - Sturgeon County and Alexander First Nation (AFN) have formed a Collaboration Committee where Truth and Reconciliation remains a top priority.
 - Sturgeon County and AFN have actively developed a Relationship Agreement that highlights commitment to achieving common goals.
 - Council-to-Council discussion has occurred with Michel First Nation.
- Within Sturgeon County, several actions identified in the TRR have been commenced. This includes, for example:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Providing 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 (No. 57). ○ Ensuring Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects (No. 92,ii). • Within Sturgeon County, several actions not identified within the TRR have also been prioritized in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updating the organization’s Strategic Plan to identify the desire to <i>form meaningful connections with Indigenous communities</i>. ○ Developing a new, personalized Treaty/Land Acknowledgment for Sturgeon County officials. ○ Permanently displaying the AFN and Métis Nation No. 4 flags at County Centre. ○ Delivery of Mayoral proclamations for National Indigenous Peoples Day, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Indigenous Veterans Day, and Métis Week. ○ Mayoral greetings at external events, such as during National Indigenous Peoples Day. <p><u>External Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County has undertaken several important external communications on this matter, listed above under current activities. <p><u>Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sturgeon County’s 2022 – 2025 Strategic Plan • Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s 2015 Calls to Action Report
<p>Implication of Administrative Recommendation</p>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <p>Collaborative Governance – Advancing Calls to Action from the TRR assists the County in meeting its desired outcome of forming meaningful connections with Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Collaborative Governance – Demonstrating a commitment to address Truth and Reconciliation contributes to and strengthens the positive relationship the County maintains with Indigenous neighbours, such as AFN and Michel First Nation.</p> <p>Operational Excellence – Undertaking specific actions identified within the TRR provides Sturgeon County with the opportunity to engage in continuous learning and improvement mindset. Listening to and learning from Indigenous Peoples enriches Sturgeon County’s decision-making processes.</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions to address Truth and Reconciliation are conducted by various departments and will continue to respond to the direction of Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional resources (personnel and financial) may be required to advance actions identified in the TRR based on Council's direction. <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None at this time. The implications of respective Calls to Action will be assessed.
Alternatives Considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council could choose to accept this Request for Decision as information. Council could choose to add, remove, or otherwise adjust the County's TRR initial focus areas.
Implications of Alternatives	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accepting the report as information would imply that Council supports continued actions related to Truth and Reconciliation; however, Administration would require further direction to ensure alignment with Council's expectations. Adjusting the focus areas would have varying strategic implications, requiring individual consideration. <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>For each alternative, Administration would need to re-evaluate current efforts and seek Council's direction. Resourcing for Indigenous Relations coordination is under review.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>None at this time for each alternative, although adding additional priorities could have financial implication.</p>
Follow up Action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate exploration of the identified Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, including supporting dialogue with the AFN-Sturgeon County Collaboration Committee (Corporate Planning & Intergovernmental Services, Ongoing). Continue active collaboration with Alexander First Nation, Michel First Nation and others on further meaningful actions for consideration (Mayor's Office, Ongoing).
Attachment(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment 1: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action Report Attachment 2: Sturgeon County Interpretation of Municipal Calls to Action
Report Reviewed by:	<p>Jennifer Lavallee, Manager, Corporate Planning & Intergovernmental Services</p> <p>Travis Peter, General Manager, Development & Strategic Services</p> <p>Reegan McCullough, County Commissioner – CAO</p>

Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: *Offering a rich tapestry of historical, cultural, and natural experiences, Sturgeon County is a municipality that honours its rural roots and cultivates desirable communities. Uniquely situated to provide world-class agricultural, energy, and business investment opportunities, the County prioritizes responsible stewardship and dreaming big.*

Guiding Principles: Collaboration | Accountability | Flexibility | Excellence | Safety | Future Readiness | Affordability | Innovation

Community Outcome	Not consistent	Consistent	N/A
Planned Growth			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internationally competitive to attract, grow and sustain diverse businesses; tenacious focus on new growth and innovation 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern broadband and digital capabilities 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low cost, minimal red-tape regulations 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliable and effective infrastructure planning; comprehensive land use and infrastructure planning 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thriving Communities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beautiful, surprising places with high standards; integrated natural spaces & trail systems; healthy and resilient 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging cultural, historical, and civic amenities; strong community identity and pride 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe, welcoming, and diverse communities; small community feel and personal connection; commitment to high quality of life 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Stewardship			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean air, land, and water; Carbon neutral municipal practices; circular economy opportunities 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of natural areas and agricultural lands; enhanced greening and biodiversity; safekeeping ecosystems 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable development; partnerships with industry and others to drive emission reductions 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Collaborative Governance			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Predictable and stable external relationships; volunteer partnerships 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meaningful connections with Indigenous communities 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing community consultation and engagement; transparent and action-oriented decision making based on sound rationale 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respectful and informed debate; clear and supportive governance processes 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operational Excellence			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged and effective people – Council, Admin and Volunteers; continuous learning and improvement mindset; nimble and bold, with strong leadership 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality cost-effective service delivery; robust procurement and operational practices and policies; asset management and performance measurement; careful debt and reserve stewardship; long-term financial planning and sustainability 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future focused thinking to proactively respond to emerging opportunities and challenges 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative revenue generation and service delivery models integrated strategic and business planning 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>