

**Making Toronto**

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**business and**

**culture thrive**

# Report to the Aboriginal Affairs Committee

## Proposal for the City to Recognise Call to Action 82: Indian Residential School Survivors (IRSS) Legacy Monument

September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017

# Call To Action 82

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The final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada contained 94 Calls to Action.

**Action 82** called for provincial governments, in collaboration with survivors and their organizations, to commission a highly-visible, publicly accessible residential schools monument in each capital city to commemorate the victims and survivors of Canada's residential schools.

# IRSS Legacy Monument

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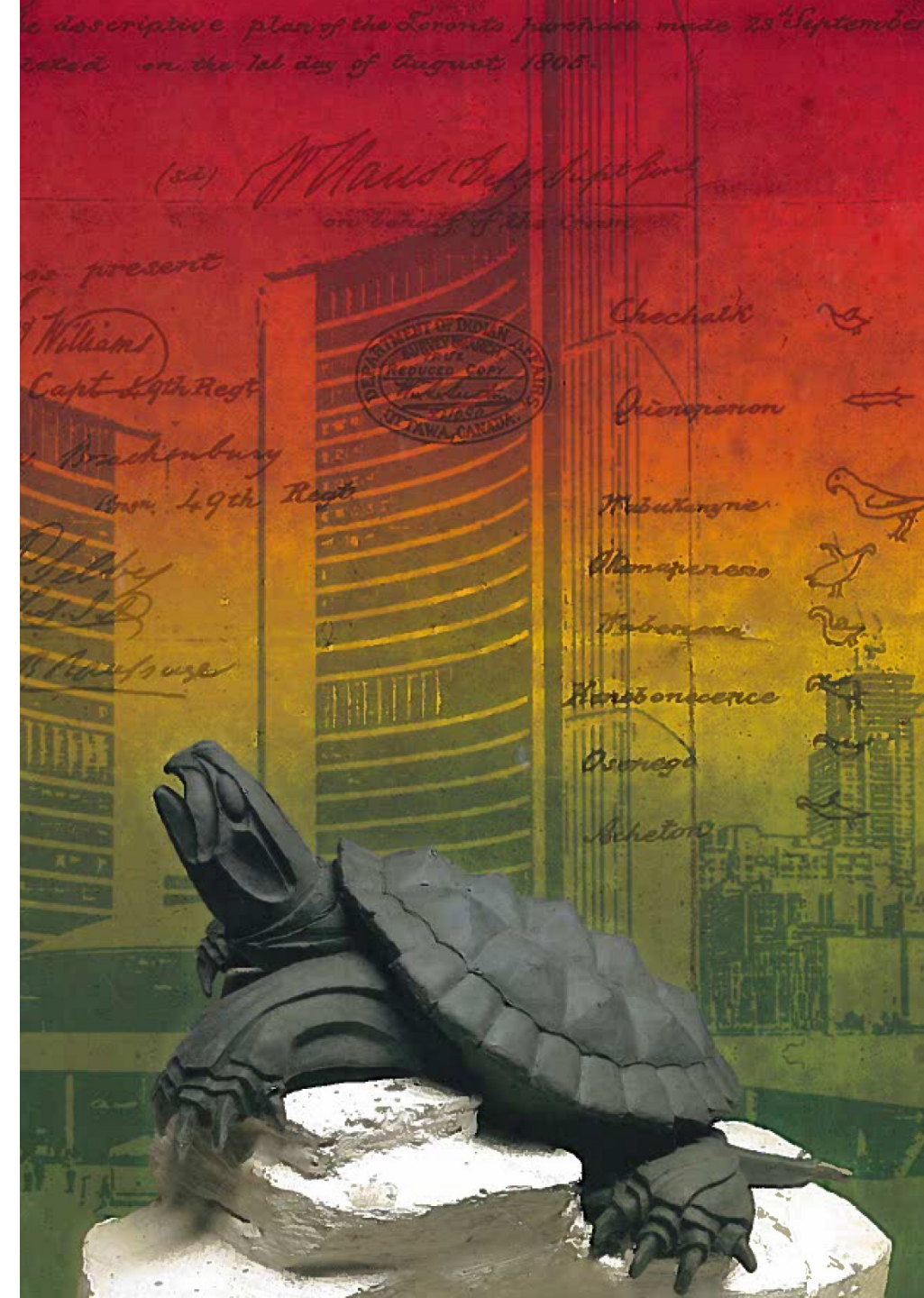
The Province of Ontario, through the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, is investing \$1.5 million and working with Indigenous partners and residential school survivors across the province to establish an Indian Residential School Survivors (IRSS) Legacy monument in Toronto.

The monument will be a site of learning, healing and reconciliation, and is projected to be installed in October 2018. Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre (TCFNCC) is leading the process for the Toronto project.

# Restoration of Identity Solomon King

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Council Fire has identified a proposed artist and sculpture for the project: *Restoration of Identity* by Ojibway artist Solomon King, from the Cape Croker community. A stonemason, sculptor and entrepreneur, King has over twenty years of experience in stone masonry, heritage restoration and sculpture.



# City's Involvement to Date

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- April 1, 2016: City Manager's report on Fulfilling Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) outlines how the City should respond to eight of the TRC's Calls to Action that have bearing on the municipality
- May 3, 2016: City Manager's Report adopted by City Council, which further directs specific City divisions to implement Action 82.
- June 19, 2017: Executive Committee directs City Manager to consult with Toronto Council Fire on the project to create a "Restoration of Identity" sculpture, and report to the Executive Committee on location options and funding support for the project.

# City's Involvement to Date

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- To assist in advancing the project, City of Toronto staff have met with Toronto Council Fire a number of times over summer 2017 to elaborate project details.
- While City staff and members of Council are supportive of the project, further discussions with Toronto Council Fire will be required to arrive at reliable estimates for feasibility, costing and timelines as well as to constructively engage all stakeholders such as the Nathan Phillips Square Advisory Committee.

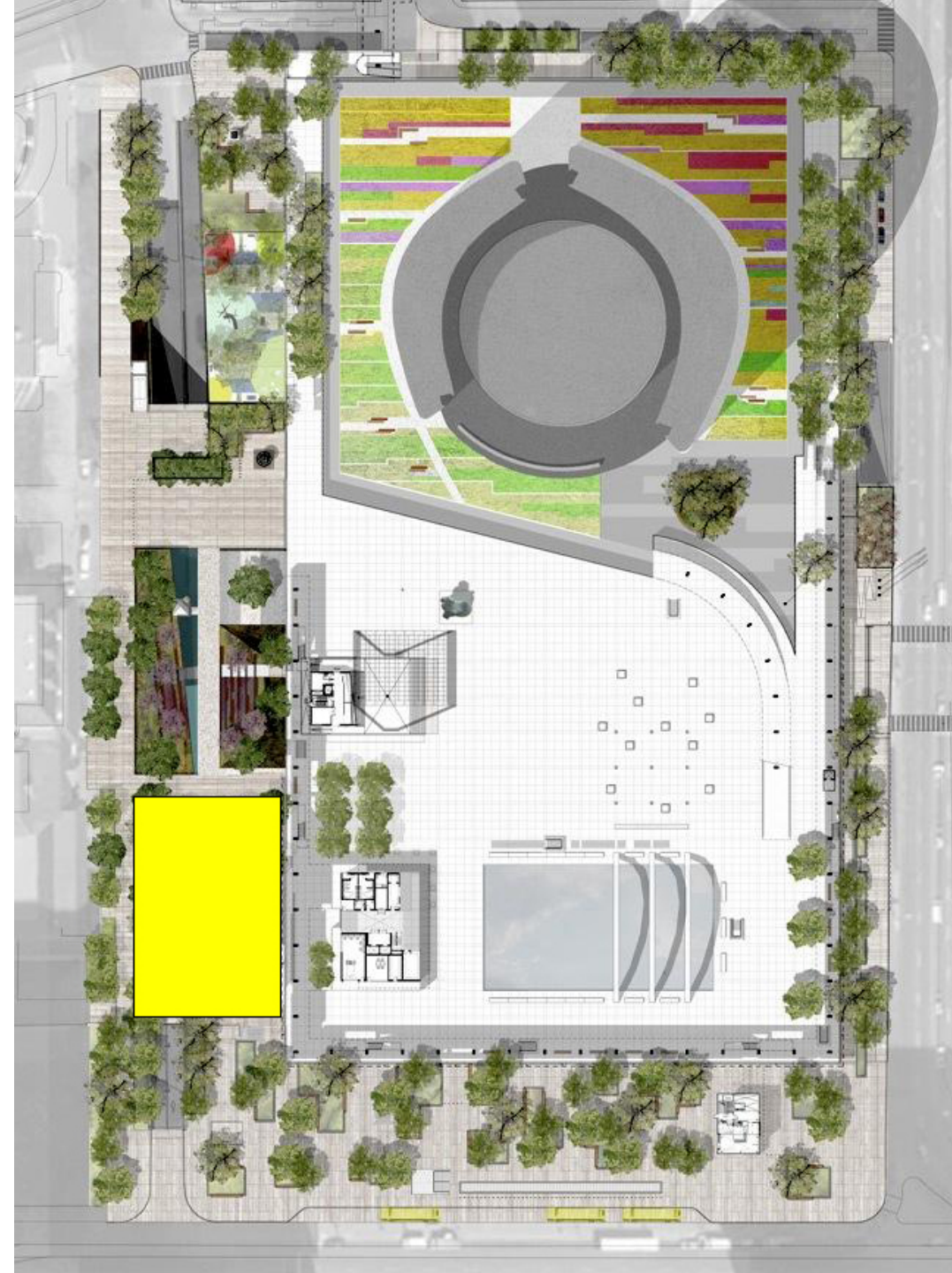


# Recommendations

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To advance the project, it is City staff's recommendation that The Aboriginal Affairs Committee recommends that:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture; the Chief Corporate Officer; and the Director of Equity, Diversity & Human Rights to support implementation of Call to Action 82 by working with Toronto Council Fire to determine the feasibility of erecting a memorial to Indian Residential School Survivors on the vacant area south of the Peace Garden (in yellow) and report back to Council in the first quarter of 2018.





# Recommendations

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2. The feasibility study shall include the following:
  - **Technical Specifications:** detailed drawings, including an engineering assessment.
  - **Detailed Budget:** design, fabrication and installation costs; education and outreach program costs; landscape design costs for the surrounding site; any additional costs foreseen by the proponent as integral to the project.

This budget will also include a detailed explanation of the revenues available to support the project.
  - **A Public Engagement Plan.**

# Recommendations

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3. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture and the Chief Corporate Officer to work with Toronto Council Fire, the larger indigenous community, NPSCAC and community stakeholders to ensure the design for the proposed memorial is consistent with design considerations for Nathan Phillips Square.

# Recommendations

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4. City Council direct the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to assist in Toronto Council Fire's efforts to secure funding from both the federal and provincial governments as well as corporate sources to support the realization of the memorial structure.

# Next Steps

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- City to complete technical site assessment with ERA architects.
- Council Fire to provide technical, budgetary and community engagement elements for feasibility study.
- City to discuss project with other orders of government.