



March 5, 2014

Dear Executive Committee Members,

**Re: Aboriginal Year of Truth and Reconciliation and Establishment of Aboriginal Office**

As you know, City Council proclaimed November 13, 2013 to November 13, 2014 the Year of Truth and Reconciliation in the City of Toronto. The Proclamation acknowledges the impact of the Residential School Systems on Aboriginal peoples and on all Canadians.

As part of this proclamation, the Aboriginal Affairs Committee met and discussed item AA15.5 on February 12, 2014 and identified some preliminary actions that can be taken to give action to the proclamation consistent with the Toronto Statement of Commitments to Aboriginal living in Toronto adopted in 2010.

The Aboriginal Affairs Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that:

1. City Council adopt an opening ceremony at City Council meetings, which will always include the acknowledgement of First Nation Territories, upon which the City of Toronto has been built.
2. City Council recognize the importance of the Year of Truth and Reconciliation and direct staff to work with the Aboriginal Affairs Committee on strategies and activities the city can take to properly recognize the Year of Truth and Reconciliation Proclamation.
3. City Council direct the City Manager to establish an Aboriginal Affairs Office.
4. City Council request the City Manager to identify existing resources and activities to inform and educate residents of the Year of Truth and Reconciliation Proclamation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Meegwetch,

Mike Layton  
Co-Chair of Aboriginal Affairs Committee  
Councillor - Ward 19, Trinity-Spadina