
City Council

Motion without Notice

MM8.54	ACTION			Ward: All
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Friendship Events with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation on the Toronto Islands - by Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Joe Cressy, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to waive ferry passenger fees required by Chapter 441, Fees and Charges to those registered for two events organized by the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation to be held on Toronto Island Park on Sunday, July 7, 2019 and Sunday, September 29, 2019.

Summary

In June 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada released its Calls to Action report. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission mandate is to inform all Canadians about what happened in the Indian Residential Schools and to guide and inspire reconciliation and renewed relationships between Aboriginal peoples and Canadians. The Calls to Action are the Commission's recommendations to address the residential schools legacy and to advance the reconciliation process in Canada. We all have a responsibility to work towards reconciliation, and it is critical to support events taking place in our communities focused on building trust and reconciliation.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Toronto Island Friendship Committee annually organizes a series of events and tours connecting the Mississaugas of Credit First Nation to the Toronto Islands and its residents. In the past, events have included water ceremonies, round dance, medicinal plant tours and moccasin identifier tours. Led by elders and Island residents, the events aim to create a space for historical context, friendship, trust and reconciliation between the Indigenous and settler groups.

These programming events are of cultural and historical significance as it creates opportunities for education, advocacy, healing and ceremony. There are 2 additional events in 2019, on July 7th and September 9th. Each event will have an approximate attendance of between 60-70 people.

In order to facilitate and support the event, I recommend that fees be waived for participants. This Motion is urgent as the first event takes place on July 7, 2019.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM8.54