

Official Plan and Municipal Comprehensive Review

Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee

May 18, 2022

City Planning Division



AAAC on June 18, 2021 (Item AA11.4)

AAAC requested the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, to incorporate the Committee's suggestions for amplifying Indigenous voices into the engagement process of Our Plan Toronto, the Municipal Comprehensive Review.



Treaty Rights Holders & Organizations Outreach

Treaty Rights Holders and Caretakers

- Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Mississaugas of Sugog Island First Nation
- Six Nations of the Grand River
- Curve Lake First Nation
- Williams Treaty Nations
- Huron Wendat

Overall Advisory

- Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee (June 18, 2021)
- Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council

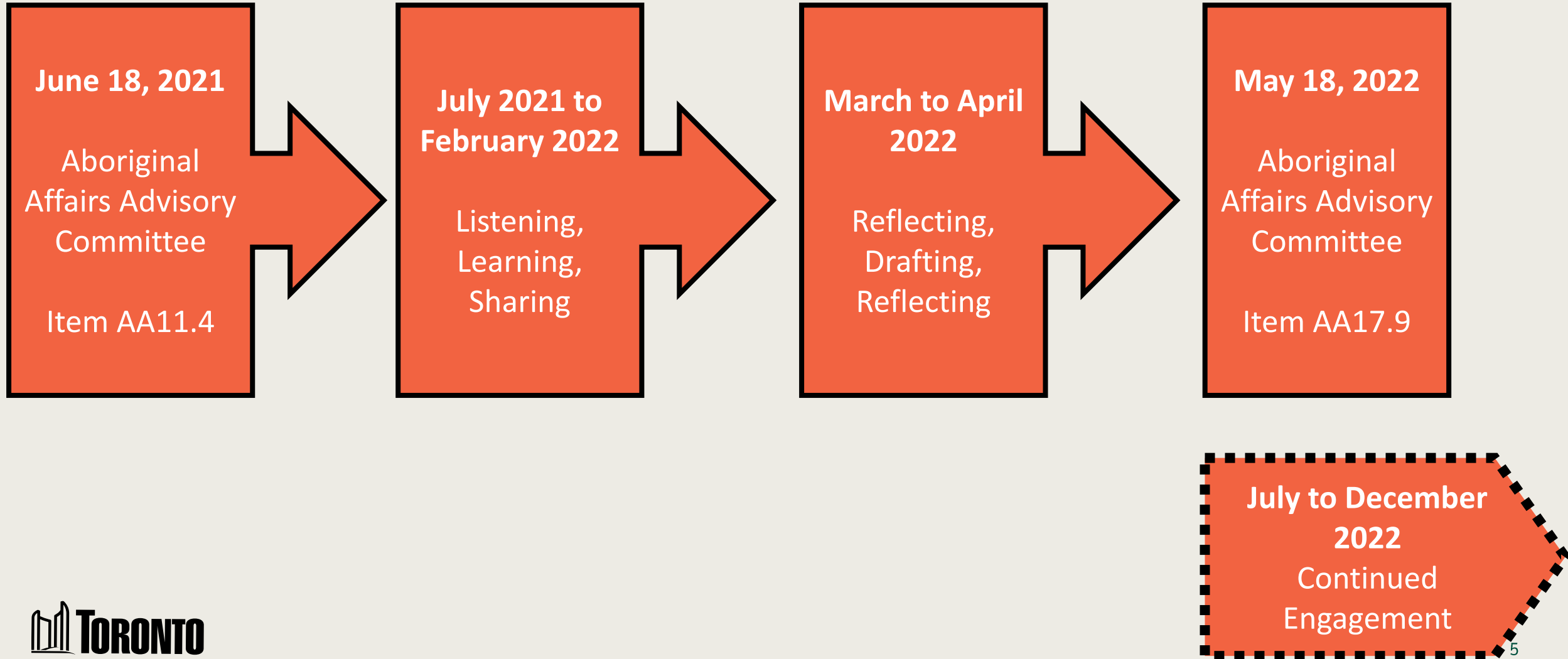
Organizations

- Aboriginal Housing and Support Centre
- Anishnawbe Health Toronto
- ENAGB Indigenous Youth Agency
- Matriarichal Circle
- Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Employment and Training (and MBDC)
- Native Canadian Centre of Toronto
- Native Child and Family Services of Toronto
- Native Men's Residence
- Native Women's Resource Centre
- Native Women in the Arts
- Native Youth Resource Centre
- Ojibikaan Indigenous Cultural Network
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
- Shared Path
- Toronto Indigenous Harm Reduction

The Official Plan is a city planning document that acts as Toronto's road map for land use matters.

- It sets out our long-term vision, shared values, and policies that help guide decision-making on land development, economic growth, the environment, and more.
- It is an important plan that directs where different types of development should and should not go

Engagement Process



DRAFT Indigenous Planning Perspectives in the OP

The Official Plan should:

1. recognize the importance and purpose of land acknowledgments;
2. seek to amplify Indigenous voices in planning processes;
3. deepen understanding of contemporary urban Indigenous realities and experiences;
4. continue to identify opportunities for Indigenous placemaking and placekeeping initiatives **in new development**; and
5. include a new Sidebar or explanatory text describing the Reconciliation Action Plan.



1. The Official Plan should recognize the importance and purpose of land acknowledgments

The purpose and intent of this draft Official Plan statement are:

- Reiterate to readers that land acknowledgments provides time for reflection and demonstrates recognition of Indigenous lands, treaties and peoples at the beginning of meetings and events.
- Remind readers that land acknowledgments involves thinking about what happened in the past and what changes can be made going forward in order to further the reconciliation process.
- Signify that land acknowledgements mark a small and important step in the process of reconciliation and building a positive relationship with Indigenous peoples.

2. The Official Plan should seek to amplify Indigenous voices in planning processes through consistent and respectful approaches to consultation and decision-making

The purpose and intent of this draft Official Plan statement are:

- While implementing the Official Plan, all parties must meaningfully engage with Indigenous Peoples frequently and early in the planning process.
 - Meaningful engagement will help the City to create and maintain relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit People, and to collaborate to restore truth, right relations and contribute to a just future for Indigenous Peoples.
- Underscore the importance of building and repairing relationships with Indigenous Peoples – with Elders, Knowledge Carriers and youth, which can remind us of our responsibilities to the land and water.

3. The Official Plan should explicitly seek to deepen understanding of contemporary urban Indigenous realities and experiences

The purpose and intent of this draft Official Plan statement are:

- By deepening the understanding of the past, and also of contemporary urban Indigenous issues, members of the public and the City will be more responsive to the needs of the Indigenous community.
- To better serve Indigenous residents in Toronto, the Official Plan should seek to address barriers and colonial practices embedded in our policies, processes and practices.



4. The Official Plan should continue to identify opportunities for Indigenous placemaking and placekeeping initiatives in new development

The purpose and intent of this **draft** Official Plan statement are:

- The outcomes of placemaking and placekeeping initiatives are varied and all are critical for the health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples
- Is integral to truth, reconciliation and justice in that it creates and nurtures space, in process and policy, for ceremony, teaching and community
- strengthens Indigenous connections with lands and waters
- builds cultural competency and capacity for land-based Indigenous engagement

“On significant sites, Indigenous groups should *lead* planning rather than just be part of the planning process.”

– Carolyn King, Shared Path

5. The Official Plan should include a new explanatory text or sidebar describing the Reconciliation Action Plan

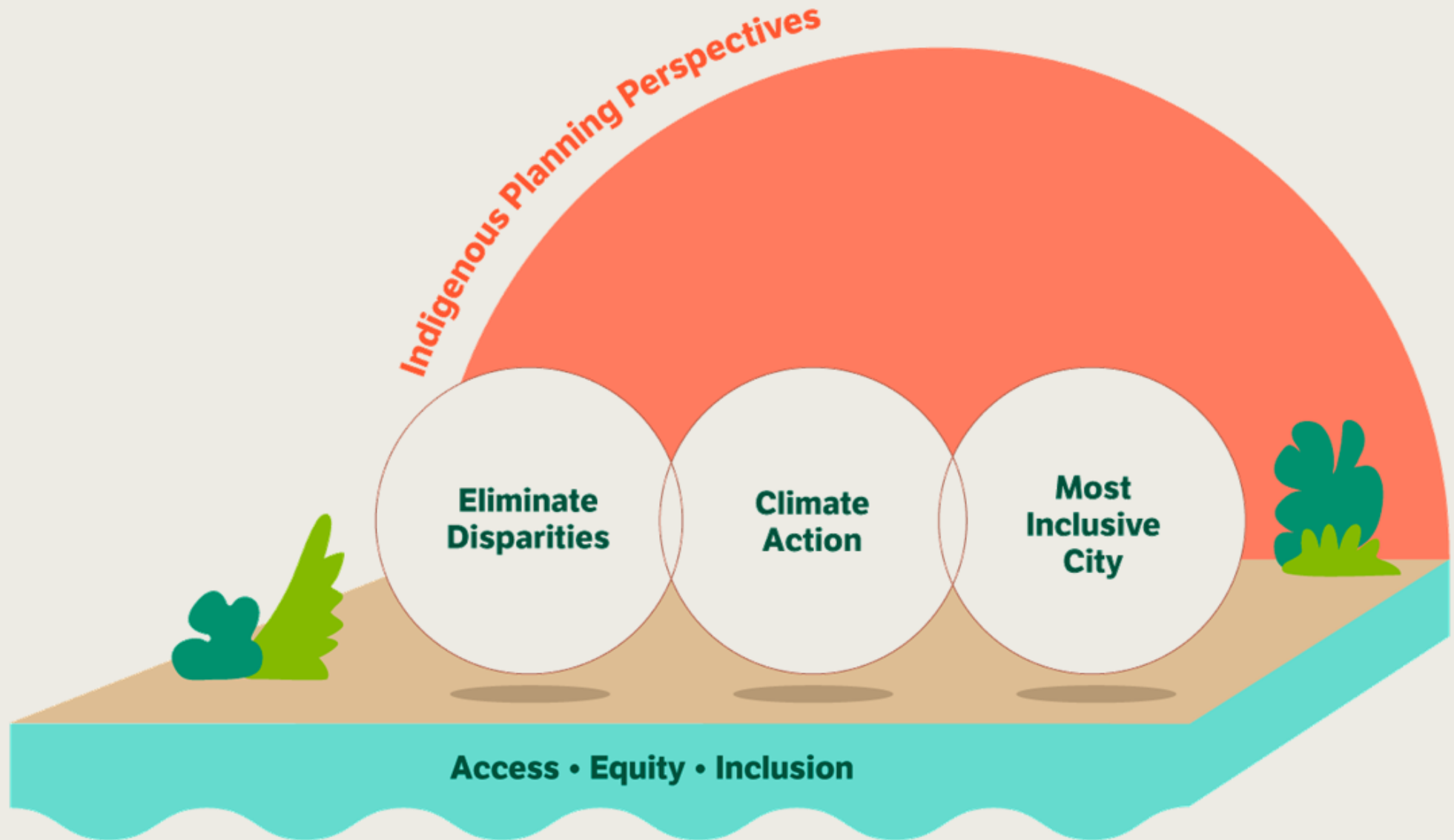
The purpose and intent of this **draft** Official Plan statement are:

- To highlight the role that the Reconciliation Action Plan can help to guide the City, towards a more inclusive and representative city with and for Indigenous Peoples.
- To build awareness and capacity by describing the City's first Reconciliation Action Plan and its 28 actions.



2022-2032 Reconciliation Action Plan

Draft: 2051 Vision Statement



Indigenous Planning Perspectives



Photo: Sadie Hamilton

Next steps

- Continued engagement
- Refine Official Plan statements and vision
- Final report re. Official Chapter 1 in 2023

Thank You!