



The Corporation of the City of Courtenay

Briefing Note

To: Council

File No.: 0470-20

From: Director of Corporate Services

Date: May 21, 2025

Subject: Support for National Indigenous Peoples Day 2025

PURPOSE: To provide an overview of the City of Courtenay's commitment to supporting National Indigenous Peoples Day (NIPD) community celebration in 2025 and beyond, hosted by K'ómoks First Nation.

BACKGROUND:

On April 24, 2024, Council approved an annual grant of \$25,000 from the City's Gaming Funds to support K'ómoks First Nation in organizing National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations. The resolution also included ongoing in-kind contributions, including transportation and parking management plans, signage, staff time, and traffic control for the event.

"THAT Council approve a \$25,000 grant to the K'ómoks First Nation in support of the 2024 National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration to be paid from the City's Gaming Funds; and

THAT \$25,000 be allocated from the City's Gaming Funds annually to provide long-term support to the K'ómoks First Nation for National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration; and

FURTHER THAT the City provide an ongoing in-kind contribution to K'ómoks First Nation for National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations in the form of transportation and parking management plans, signage, staff time, and traffic control for the event."

The 2025 celebration will be held on **Saturday, June 21, 2025**, at the Comox Valley Exhibition Grounds.

A letter of request was received on **April 3, 2025**, from K'ómoks First Nation Deputy CAO Jordan Templeman on behalf of Chief Nicole Rempel (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION:

National Indigenous Peoples Day is an important opportunity to honor and celebrate the culture, contributions, and resilience of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. In this context, long-term funding for the event reflects the City's commitment to recognizing its significance and supporting a platform for this meaningful celebration. By investing in this event, the City demonstrates solidarity with Indigenous peoples and actively contributes to preserving and promoting their rich histories and diverse perspectives. City staff will coordinate with event organizers to provide the required in-kind support, consistent with 2024 contributions. No further Council action is required unless adjustments to the scope or budget are proposed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- The \$25,000 grant will be allocated from the City's Gaming Funds, as approved in the 2024 Council resolution.
- No additional funding is requested at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

Staff from multiple departments, including Operational Services, Communications, and Corporate Services, will provide coordination and support in areas such as transportation planning, signage, traffic control, and event logistics. These tasks are aligned with existing responsibilities and fall within the scope of annual community event support.

No significant impact on departmental workplans is anticipated; however, staff will monitor any required adjustments should unplanned demands arise.

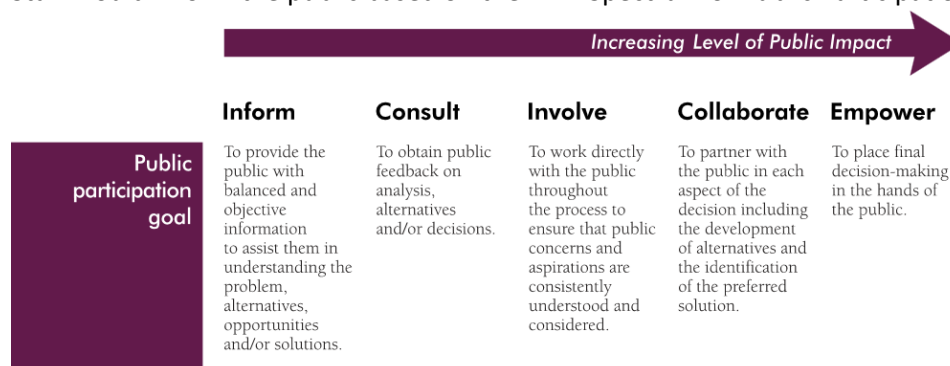
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REFERENCE:

This initiative addresses the following strategic priorities:

- Support and encourage initiatives that reflect the City's commitment to truth and reconciliation.
 - Strengthen relations with K'ómoks First Nation and regional partners.
- This initiative fosters meaningful community engagement and supports inclusive cultural recognition through collaborative partnership.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Staff would inform the public based on the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation:



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RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council receive the briefing note titled "Support for National Indigenous Peoples Day 2025" for information.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter of Request from K'ómoks First Nation – April 3, 2025

Prepared by: Lisa Bourgeois, Deputy Corporate Officer

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Kate O'Connell, Director of Corporate Services

Concurrence: Geoff Garbutt, City Manager (CAO)