



C4.1 TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

We respectfully acknowledge that the city boundary lies within the Traditional Territory of Snuneymuxw First Nation who have many significant ancestral village sites throughout the city including Stilnup (Departure Bay) and Sxwuyum (Millstone River). We recognize the Snuneymuxw Treaty of 1854, a trade and commerce treaty that forever and always preserves and protects Snuneymuxw villages, waters, enclosed fields, harvesting and gathering sites, and the right to hunt and fish as formerly.

We are committed to the hard work of advancing Truth and Reconciliation through government-to-government relations and protocols. This includes working together, in a good way with First Nations leadership, to continue acknowledging and respecting their long standing relationship with these lands and addressing inequities and intergenerational impacts of colonial systems experienced by Indigenous peoples in Nanaimo. Through these government-to-government relations and protocols, we will strive to strengthen positive and constructive relations that respect and raise up Snuneymuxw Government and their Mustimuxw (peoples).

Desired Outcomes

The City of Nanaimo acknowledges that ongoing planning and land development occurs on the Traditional Territory of Snuneymuxw First Nation.

Respectful relations between City of Nanaimo and First Nations governments with a focus on relationship building as a key component of fostering strong government-to-government relationships.

A fully inclusive community that supports the equity, health, and wellbeing of community members of diverse cultural backgrounds, especially those who identify as Indigenous.

Recognition of the guiding principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) 94 Calls to Action, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Government of British Columbia's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) in all areas where the City has impact or influence.

Improved community cohesion and Indigenous belonging through education and awareness of the culture and strengths of Canada's Indigenous peoples with a focus on the First Nations whose Territories the city boundary lies within, and taking ongoing actions to address and heal the impacts of colonialism and racism.



Policies

AWARENESS, EDUCATION, & EQUITY

- C4.1.1 Recognize and work to implement the guiding principles of the TRC *Calls to Action*, UNDRIP, and DRIPA in all areas where the City has impact or influence.
- C4.1.2 Continue to provide learning opportunities for City Staff and community members on the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada with special focus on the First Nations whose Territories the city boundary lies within. This includes the history and legacy of residential schools, hospitals, and other colonial systems, the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, *Treaties*, and Indigenous rights.
- C4.1.3 Contribute any City records to First Nations and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation that are relevant to the history and legacy of the Indian residential school system and hospitals in Nanaimo.
- C4.1.4 Work with First Nations and other government partners to support and encourage partnerships and initiatives that improve the health and wellbeing of all Indigenous community members, including those represented by the Métis Nation, Inuit, and other Urban Indigenous peoples.
- C4.1.5 Continue to work collaboratively with First Nations and other partner organizations to establish culturally sensitive opportunities to honour all the children lost through the residential school system and support healing for survivors and their families.

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

- C4.1.6 Engage government-to-government with Snuneymuxw First Nation in accordance with protocol agreements as well as guidance for local governments under the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) *94 Calls to Action*, the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP), and the Government of British Columbia's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA). This includes upholding the following guiding principles committed to by the City of Nanaimo and Snuneymuxw First Nation in the *2019 Renewed Protocol Agreement*:
 - (a) Act in an open, good faith, and transparent manner toward one another
 - (b) Nurture trust and collaboration between one another to create confidence in the renewed relationship that will further certainty and reliance of the Nanaimo region on the government-to-government relationship between the Parties
 - (c) Mutual recognition and respect for each other, specifically Snuneymuxw's connection to Snuneymuxw Territory including the spiritual and cultural importance of Snuneymuxw values and way of life



- (d) Adopt a “solutions oriented” approach in all work together through the creation of a shared vision of greater prosperity and wellbeing for all residents of the Nanaimo region
 - (e) Act consistent with the Draft Principles [of the Protocol Agreement]
 - (f) Advance understanding of the rights, obligations, needs, and challenges of one another
- C4.1.7 Continue to collaborate on referral processes with Snuneymuxw First Nation to more efficiently and effectively address City land use planning and decisions that impact Snuneymuxw interests, including treaty rights.
- C4.1.8 Consider collaboration on Traditional Land Use Planning and Studies to support improving City land use planning and decision making processes.
- C4.1.9 Recognize the importance of Snuneymuxw village sites as identified in the Treaty of 1854 and encourage efforts by the Crown to return land or compensate for losses.
- C4.1.10 Work with Snuneymuxw First Nation, the Provincial Government, and the Regional District of Nanaimo to investigate opportunities for Snuneymuxw Mustimuxw (peoples) to participate in City elections.
- C4.1.11 Continue to support collaborative agreements between the City, Snuneymuxw, and other levels of government including the School District, the Regional District of Nanaimo, Nanaimo Port Authority, and BC Housing.
- C4.1.12 Recognize the overlapping interests and jurisdiction between the City of Nanaimo, Snuneymuxw First Nation, and the Regional District of Nanaimo, and consider tripartite government-to-government agreements to facilitate stronger collaboration and cooperation to achieve reconciliation and other shared interests.
- C4.1.13 Recognize and acknowledge the Traditional Territories of First Nations at the start of public meetings and events.
- C4.1.14 Continue to collaborate with First Nations governments on projects of mutual environmental, economic, social, and cultural interest on their Traditional Territories.
- C4.1.15 Encourage and support First Nations government, and as appropriate, other Indigenous representation on committees, task forces, and tables addressing topics of mutual interest.



C4.1.16 Partner with First Nations to increase their visible presence and recognize their Traditional Territories through a variety of projects, including signage, place-naming, art, incorporation of Hul'qumi'num language into public spaces, communications materials, and other ideas.

C4.1.17 Ensure approval by First Nations governments prior to starting any public art, culture, or heritage projects with Indigenous content to be located in City owned spaces on their Traditional Territories.

Integrated Policy Areas (view the below sections to see related policies)



C3.4
Food Security



C4.2
Equity & Inclusivity



C4.5
Culture



C4.6
Archaeology & Heritage



C4.7
Public Art Projects & Programs



C4.8
Community Events, Festivals, Tournaments, & Gatherings



C4.9
Parkland & Park Amenity Management



C4.10
Waterfront Use & Protection



C5.3
Business Development



C5.5
Place Making & Investment Attraction



C5.6
Tourism