

Whereas: Surrey RCMP service both the Semiahmoo and Katzie first Nations;

Whereas: The Semiamhoo and Katzie First Nations have a Tri-partied agreement with the RCMP for First Nations Policing on their Lands;

Whereas: Surrey has the largest Urban Indigenous population in British Columbia;

Whereas: Both through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (“UNDRIP”), Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Municipal Governments are required to adopt participatory approaches to indigenous issues, which requires effective consultation and the building of partnerships that promotes full and effective participation for Indigenous peoples in all matters that concern them;

Whereas: The first two values of the City of Surrey’s own “All our Relations” Report are:

“Respect for the political autonomy of the Coast Salish First Nations in Surrey.”; and

“Respectful engagement with the Coast Salish First Nations in Surrey.”;

Whereas: Fifteen of the forty-six articles in UNDRIP speak to the importance of indigenous peoples’ participation in all decisions that affecting their lives.

Whereas: Guideline #6 of British Columbia’s *Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia’s Relationship with Indigenous Peoples* provides that: “The Province of British Columbia recognizes that meaningful engagement with Indigenous peoples aims to secure their free, *prior and informed consent* when B.C. proposes to take actions which impact them and their rights, including their lands, territories and resources.” *[emphasis added]*;

Whereas: The Semiahmoo and Katzie First Nations advise that there has been no consultation with them regarding any possible transition to a Surrey Police Force by the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia or the City of Surrey;

**Be it resolved that: The existing process being followed to consider transition from the RCMP to a Surrey Police Force be immediately suspended until a sufficient, respectful and transparent consultation process that meets the federal, provincial and municipal obligations to consult with our First Nations peoples affected by the proposed changes has been adopted.**