



# Merritt Information Item

FLOURISH UNDER THE SUN

**To:** Sean Smith, Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Don McArthur, Planning Manager

**Date:** September 10, 2020

**Subject:** Official Community Plan Update

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***This is provided as information, and no resolution is required. Council may make a motion to direct staff to take particular action if they wish.***

## Background Report

The Official Community Plan (OCP) consulting team has conducted indepth research, which has included numerous meetings with staff and stakeholders, the analyzing of Statistics Canada data, and the reviewing of all of the City's master plans. Using the information gleaned, challenges and opportunities for the City have been identified and compiled in a Background Report (Attachment A). The information contained in the report, in combination with public engagement feedback this Fall, will be used to guide development of the OCP document in the coming months.

The consultant has asked that Council provide feedback on the contents of the report, to ensure no obvious challenges or potential opportunities are missed.

The report has also been provided to the OCP's Steering Committee for review.

Based on feedback from Council and staff, the report will be revised and a final document released during OCP Launch Week (October 5 – 9).

## OCP Name and Logo

At a previous Council Meeting, Council provided input on potential names for the OCP project. The name "Flourish Together" seemed to resonate with Council. Staff were directed to explore the possibility of translating the name into the local Indigenous languages (Nlaka'pamux and Syilx). Staff are currently working with local First Nations to translate the name, and hope to unveil it during OCP Launch Week.

Staff are also working with the OCP consultant on a logo design. A first draft of the logo is shown below. Input from local First Nations has been incorporated into the design, with the water representing the local rivers and the branches representing the saskatoon bush, both important to local Indigenous peoples. Please note that the

language translations, when completed, would be added to arch around the top of the logo.



*Figure 1: Potential OCP Logo, without the language translations*

### **Attachments**

Attachment A: OCP Draft Background Report

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Don McArthur**  
**Planning & Development Services Manager**