



Report

City of Merritt
REGULAR Council Meeting
October 22, 2019

File Number: 2280

To: Scott Hildebrand, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Sean Smith, Director of Corporate Services

Date: October 17, 2019

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council endorse the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Upper Nicola Band of the Okanagan (Syilx) Nation, the Lower Nicola, Coldwater, Nooitch, and Shackan Bands of the Nlaka'pamux Nation, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District, and the City of Merritt.

AND THAT the Mayor be authorized to sign the MOU on behalf of the City of Merritt

Background:

At the Community to Community Forum held in Merritt on June 10, 2019 attended by representatives from the City of Merritt, Coldwater Band, Lower Nicola Band, Nooaitch First Nation, Upper Nicola Band and Shackan First Nation and Thompson Nicola Regional District, the parties discussed how we could better work together on shared economic opportunities and mutual challenges. At this meeting, the parties expressed interest in entering into a Memorandum of Understanding that would establish a framework that would help our governments accomplish these goals.

Reviewed by:			
Director, Corp. Services Not yet approved	Director, Finance & IT Not yet approved	Director, Engineering & Development Not yet approved	Chief Administrative Officer: Choose an item.

Staff from the City of Merritt prepared the Memorandum of Understanding, which has now been reviewed by representatives from each of the parties. The MOU is now being brought forward to each Board and Council independently for consideration and comment.

Once the MOU has been endorsed by all parties, an official signing ceremony will be arranged.

Staff is extremely supportive of this initiative and looks forward to closer relationships with our neighbouring First Nations' communities.

Options / discussion

1. THAT Council endorse the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Upper Nicola Band of the Okanagan (Syilx) Nation, the Lower Nicola, Coldwater, Nooitch, and Shackan Bands of the Nlaka'pamux Nation, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District, and the City of Merritt.

AND THAT the Mayor be authorized to sign the MOU on behalf of the City of Merritt.

2. THAT Council receive this report for information.

Attachments:

Attachment "A" - Memorandum of Understanding

Respectfully submitted,

**Sean Smith,
Deputy CAO/Director of Corporate Services**