



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**Prepared by:** Joe Milicia, Chief Administrative Officer

**Department:** Administration

**Date of Report:** September 22, 2021

**Report Number:** CAO-17-2021

**Subject:** National Day of for Truth and Reconciliation

### **Recommendation**

That the report of the Chief Administrative Officer dated September 22, 2021 (CAO-17-2021) regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation be approved and that offices be closed as a day of reflection on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Report**

In June, the federal government passed new legislation making September 30<sup>th</sup> a general holiday under the Canada Labour Code. Named the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30<sup>th</sup> is meant to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools where tens of thousands of First Nations children were taken from their families and forced to attend classes that separated them from their culture.

The designation of this day is in response to one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action and is meant to honour survivors, their families, and communities. It also ensures the ongoing commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools will remain a vital part of the reconciliation process. This new designated paid holiday applies to federally regulated public and private sectors — specifically, the federal public service and employers subject to the Canada Labour Code.

As a result, it is recommended that September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year be recognized as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and a paid holiday for all Town employees. Given the timing for 2021 we will be treating this holiday similar to how we currently treat the Remembrance Day Holiday.

It is important to honour survivors, their families, the indigenous communities and our indigenous history and it is important that we demonstrate a strong commitment to the reconciliation process. We encourage all staff and the public to reflect on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

## **Consultations**

Area Municipalities  
Senior Management Team  
Can-Am Friendship Centre (previously)

## **Financial Implications**

It is anticipated that the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will have an impact on the 2021 approved budget as this holiday was not included in the 2021 budget and would be funded by the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve if departmental deficits occur.

## **Prepared By:**



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia  
Chief Administrative Officer

## **Link to Strategic Goals**

1. Enhancing organizational excellence - Yes
2. Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town - Yes
3. Grow and diversify the local economy - Not Applicable
4. Build on our high-quality of life - Not Applicable
5. Sustaining strong public services and infrastructure - Not Applicable

## **Communications**

Public communication via news releases, website, social media platforms and traditional media outlets

## **Notifications**

Staff and Public