



## **MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**August 9, 2018, 9:00 A.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE**

**Located on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees People**

- PRESENT:** Mayor Helps in the Chair, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young
- ABSENT:** Councillor Isitt
- STAFF PRESENT:** J. Jenkyns - City Manager, C. Coates - City Clerk, P. Bruce - Fire Chief, S. Thompson - Director of Finance, J. Tinney - Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development, F. Work - Director of Engineering & Public Works, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, B. Eisenhauer - Head of Engagement, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, A. Meyer - Assistant Director of Development Services, A. Hudson - Assistant Director of Community Planning, H. Mckeil – Housing Planner; C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, AM Ferguson - Committee Secretary, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, L. Taylor - Senior Planner, J. O'Connor - Manager of Financial Planning
- GUEST:** Ms. E. de Rosenroll - Chief Executive Officer, South Island Prosperity Project

### **A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the agenda be approved.

**Moved By** Councillor Lucas

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

**Amendment:**

That the agenda be amended to include the following items on the consent agenda:

**Consent agenda:**

**Item No. C. 1 - Minutes from the meeting held April 19, 2018**

**Item No. F. 2 - 1159 View Street - Development Variance Permit Application No. 00213 (Fernwood)**

**Item No. F. 3 - 727 and 733 Courtney Street - Development Permit Application No. 000529 (Downtown)**

**Item No. G. 1 - Support for Victoria 2020 Canadian Francophone Games**

**Item No. G. 2 - 2018 Municipal Election**

**Item No. I. 2 - Support for a National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution**

**On the amendment:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the main motion as amended:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the following items be approved without further debate:

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.1 Minutes from the meeting held April 19, 2018**

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the minutes from the meeting held April 19, 2018, be adopted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.2 1159 View Street - Development Variance Permit Application No. 00213 (Fernwood)**

Committee received a report dated July 27, 2018, from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an application to add two rental housing units to an existing fourplex and a new bicycle storage accessory building.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council, after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Variance Permit Application No. 00213 for 1159 View Street in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped June 29, 2018.

2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:

- i. reduce vehicle parking from 7 stalls to 3 stalls
- ii. increase the site coverage from 30.00% to 45.56%
- iii. increase the rear yard site coverage from 25.00% to 29.97%.

3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.3     727 and 733 Courtney Street - Development Permit with Variances**  
**Application No. 000529 (Downtown)**

Committee received a report dated August 7, 2018, from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an application to construct a two-storey vehicle rental office building.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council, after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That, subject to confirmation that lot consolidation has occurred to the satisfaction of the City, Council authorize issuance of Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00087 for 727 and 733 Courtney Street, in accordance with:

- 1. Plans date stamped June 4, 2018.
- 2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances
  - i. relaxation to accommodate offices on the ground floor
  - ii. relaxation to allow rental vehicles to be stored outside the building
  - iii. relaxation to allow motor vehicle parking outside the building

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.4     Support for Victoria 2020 Canadian Francophone Games**

Committee received a report dated July 25, 2018, from the Director of Engineering and Public Works regarding recommendations for supporting the 2020 Canadian Francophone Games.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council approve financial support up to \$50,000 for the 2020 Canadian Francophone Games, with funds from the 2018 budget surplus.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.5     2018 Municipal Election**

Committee received a Council member motion dated August 1, 2018, from the City Clerk regarding the appointment of Deputy Chief Election Officers.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

1. That Lucina Baryluk be appointed as a Deputy Chief Election Officer, and effective August 27, 2018, Monica Fedcykowska also be appointed as a Deputy Chief election Officer for the 2018 Municipal Election.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.6     Support for a National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution**

Committee received a Council member motion dated August 3, 2018, from Councillors Loveday and Isitt regarding support for Bill M-151, A National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the federal Minister of Environment, copying the provincial Minister of Environment and Members of Parliament representing constituencies on Vancouver Island, to express support for Bill M-151, A National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D.     Presentation**

**D.1     South Island Prosperity Project Annual Presentation**

Committee received a presentation from the Chief Executive Officer from the South Island Prosperity Project regarding an update on progresses.

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the report be received for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F.     LAND USE MATTERS**

**F.1     Update Report: 736 Princess Avenue - Rezoning Application No. 00602 (Burnside)**

Committee received a report dated July 26, 2018, from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an update on an application to construct a six-storey, mixed-use building consisting of ground-floor commercial and residential above.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Potential for additional commercial uses and parking concerns.*

**Moved By** Councillor Madoff

**Seconded By** Councillor Young

That Council decline Rezoning Application No. 00602 and Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00078 for 736 Princess Avenue.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Lack of alignment with City policy and the need for employment space in the area.*
- *Options to make the proposal supportable and potential for creative financing options to achieve affordability.*

FOR (3): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Madoff, and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

**DEFEATED (3 to 5)**

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council direct staff to work with the applicant and request that the proposal that comes back conforms with the Official Community Plan.

*Committee discussed:*

- *The carshare approach proposed.*

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

**Amendment:**

That the motion be amended to include the following:

**and ask the applicant to provide further clarity regarding the operating model of the electric car share.**

*Committee discussed:*

- *Concerns with the updated proposal and the lack of alignment with City policy.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Main motion as amended:**

That Council direct staff to refer the application back to the applicant and request that the proposal that comes back to Committee of the Whole conforms with the Official Community Plan and ask the applicant to provide further clarity regarding the operating model of the electric car share.

FOR (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (3): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Madoff, and Councillor Young

**CARRIED (5 to 3)**

**F.4 Victoria Housing Fund Application No. 000017 for 210 Gorge Road East (Burnside)**

Committee received a report dated July 31, 2018, from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an application to create 50 new affordable apartments, with a total of 60 bedrooms.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Lucas

That Council approve a Victoria Housing Fund grant to the Victoria Cool Aid Society in the amount of \$600,000 to assist in the construction of 50 non-market rental apartment units, with a total of 60 bedrooms for low-to-moderate income residents, located at 210 Gorge Road East, subject to the following conditions:

1. The grant will be disbursed to the applicant once the Housing Fund Grant Agreement is executed by the applicant and the Housing Agreement Bylaw has been adopted by Council.
2. The Victoria Cool Aid Society enters into a Housing Fund Grant Agreement with terms, to the satisfaction of the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development; and in a form to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, which include requirements that:
  - a) the Victoria Cool Aid Society will identify the City of Victoria as a contributor on publications, documents, and public events related to the development, completion and operation of the project;
  - b) upon project completion, Victoria Cool Aid Society will submit a final report to the Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department; and
  - c) the grant is to be repaid by the Victoria Cool Aid Society if the project does not proceed as proposed.
3. The Victoria Cool Aid Society enters into a Housing Agreement securing the housing units at affordable rental levels for low-to-moderate incomes in perpetuity, consistent with the Victoria Housing Fund Guidelines, and with terms to the satisfaction of the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, and that Council:
  - a) direct staff to bring forward a Housing Agreement Bylaw for Council's consideration after condition No. 3 is fulfilled; and
  - b) that Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Housing Fund Grant Agreement.

*Committee discussed:*

- *The contingency of the grant on the approval of the rezoning application.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Committee recessed at 10:15 a.m. and returned at 10:22 a.m.*

## **G. STAFF REPORTS**

### **G.3 Public Opinion Poll on Establishing a Citizens Assembly on Amalgamation of Victoria and Saanich**

Committee received a report dated August 1, 2018, from the City Clerk regarding the co-development of educational information in advance of the October 20, 2018 general election as an inclusive election expense.

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Young

That Council endorse the information on the amalgamation referendum question and direct staff to undertake web based and social media notifications as well as a Vic News insert to inform the public of the details.

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Young

**Amendment:**

That the motion be amended to include the following:

- 2. Replace the *Proposed Referendum Information Sheet* with the document provided August 9, 2018 and add at the end of the second paragraph, after 'decide':**

**on the amendment:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By** Councillor Madoff

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

**Amendment:**

That the motion be amended to include the following:

***'as an independent referendum or as a part of the next election'***

*Committee discussed:*

- *Cost increases associated with individual referendum.*

**on the amendment:**

## **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Main motion as amended:**

That Council:

1. Endorse the revised information (see # 2) on the amalgamation referendum question and direct staff to undertake web based and social media notifications as well as a Vic News insert to inform the public of the details, and
2. Replace the *Proposed Referendum Information Sheet* with the document provided August 9, 2018 and add at the end of the second paragraph, after 'decide':  
*'as an independent referendum or as a part of the next election'*

## **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **I. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **I.1 Fair Trade City**

Committee received a Council member motion dated August 3, 2018, from Mayor Helps regarding recommendations for making Victoria a Fair Trade City.

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

WHEREAS Fair Trade is a commercial partnership whose objective is to offer better trade conditions and equity in international trade while ensuring that producers and workers' right are protected and respected by paying a fair market price for their products;

WHEREAS Fair Trade is in line with the City of Victoria's vision because it encourages increased social equity while being economically feasible and promotes using methods deemed more environmentally friendly;  
Be it resolved that:

- a.) The City of Victoria becomes a "Fair Trade Town";
- b.) The City of Victoria amend its purchasing policy to require Fairtrade certification for all coffee, and tea served by municipal food services managed by municipal administration;
- c.) The City of Victoria publish campaign/designation information on the municipality's website;
- d.) The City of Victoria attract media attention and promotes its status as a Fair Trade Town;
- e.) The City of Victoria commit to develop and promote ethical and sustainable consumption.

That after the upcoming municipal election, Council appoints a representative to sit on the Victoria Fair Trade Steering Committee for a term of two years



*Committee discussed:*

- *Cost associated with fair trade certification.*

**Moved By** Mayor Helps  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

**Motion to Refer:**

That the following item be referred to the next quarterly update for staff to provide information related to carrying out this work:

That the following item be referred to the next quarterly update for staff to provide information related to carrying out this work:

WHEREAS Fair Trade is a commercial partnership whose objective is to offer better trade conditions and equity in international trade while ensuring that producers and workers' right are protected and respected by paying a fair market price for their products;

WHEREAS Fair Trade is in line with the City of Victoria's vision because it encourages increased social equity while being economically feasible and promotes using methods deemed more environmentally friendly;

Be it resolved that:

- a.) The City of Victoria becomes a "Fair Trade Town";
- b.) The City of Victoria amend its purchasing policy to require Fairtrade certification for all coffee, and tea served by municipal food services managed by municipal administration;
- c.) The City of Victoria publish campaign/designation information on the municipality's website;
- d.) The City of Victoria attract media attention and promotes its status as a Fair Trade Town;
- e.) The City of Victoria commit to develop and promote ethical and sustainable consumption.

That after the upcoming municipal election, Council appoints a representative to sit on the Victoria Fair Trade Steering Committee for a term of two years.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Receiving more information on the benefits of fair trade.*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.3 City Family Story as told from the perspectives of the City Council Members that are part of the City Family: Continued Reconciliation and Removal of Sir John A. MacDonald Statue**

Committee received a Council member report dated August 7, 2018, from the City Family regarding a decision for continued reconciliation by removing the Sir John A. MacDonald Statue. (Verbatim minutes attached as Appendix A)

**Moved By** Mayor Helps  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council receive this story for information and endorse the decision of the City Family.

*Committee discussed:*

- *The work towards reconciliation and the desire for City Hall to be welcoming for all.*
- *Collaborating with the John A. MacDonald society to relocate the statue.*

**Moved By** Mayor Helps  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

**Amendment:**

That the motion be amended to include the following:

- 2. That Council request that the City Family come back at the latest in 6 months with a process for the community to have a process for reconciliation including the role of Sir John A MacDonald in Canadian and Victorian's history.**

**Moved By** Mayor Helps  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

**Amendment to the amendment:**

That the amendment be amended as follows:

That Council:

1. receive this story for information and endorse the decision of the City Family.
- ~~2. That Council request that the City Family come back at the latest in 6 months with a process for the community to have a process for reconciliation including the role of Sir John A MacDonald in Canadian and Victorian's history.~~
- 2. That Council request the Mayor keep her public commitment and make the family aware of the words spoken today.**

**On the amendment to the amendment:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Amendment to the amendment:**

That the amendment be amended as follows:

- ~~2. That Council request the Mayor keep her public commitment and make the family aware of the words spoken today~~ to share the intent of the request made by Council today with the City Family.

**On the amendment to the amendment:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the amendment:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Main motion as amended:**

That Council:

1. Receive this story for information and endorse the decision of the City Family.
2. Request the Mayor keep her public commitment to share the intent of the request made by Council today with the City Family.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**J. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR

## **Appendix A**

### **Verbatim Excerpt of the Minutes from the August 9, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting**

#### **Item I.3. City Family Story as told from the perspectives of the City Council Members that are part of the City Family: Continued Reconciliation and Removal of Sir John A. MacDonald Statue**

##### **Mayor Helps:**

I am not going to speak for too long on this, I know we all have a lot to say but I just want to kind of outline where we have come from and where we are and what's next in this process. So last year as you will recall as this was laid out in the report, Council appointed the City Family and asked it to do work in regards to reconciliation and its very unconventional and uncomfortable approach for all of us and has been really interesting for me as someone who is so agenda driven and so focused and so task-oriented to just sit and have dinner once a month and have conversations and listen and learn. What came out very early in the conversation with the City Family was the uncomfortable feeling of coming into City Hall for these gatherings and/or at any other time with the figure of John A. McDonald on the front steps and so we discussed and deliberated for quite a long time about what to do about this. Do we remove it? Do we replace it? Do we take it away forever? And what we've come to with the City Family and decided is that which is where we are today, put the statue safely in storage and have a conversation as a City Family, we as a Nations, as a community about what is the best way to tell the story, the very complex story, of John A. McDonald. And this is where we are now and we've all heard lots of comments and questions over the last few days about this notion of rewriting history and/or erasing history and how do we grapple with that and for me, in particular, as a historian, this is about rewriting history. History is always rewritten. If you look at the way history was written in the 1920's it's very different the 1980's is very different in 2018. History is always being rewritten and I think the opportunity with the process of reconciliation that we are engaged in is to rewrite this history in a really careful, conscious and collaborative way and so what I imagine and I just so appreciate the letter that we received from the John A. McDonald Society asking to be consulted and involved in the conversation about the future location of the statue. That's awesome! That is reconciliation in action and my greatest fantasy which I will endeavor to make come true is that after we store the statue safely and give the space a bit of time to breathe and the energy around this to diffuse a little bit is that we work really hard as a community with the wider community, with the Nations, with the City Family, with the John A. McDonald Society to have a conversation and continue to talk about it and maybe a forum on reconciliation in Victoria, what it means and how we work through that. The City Family has already turned its mind a little bit to how could the statue be repositioned in a way and a place that tells a broader story. This is about rewriting history but it is not about erasing history and what it's really about as a Council, as a City Family with the Nations and as a community. It's about grappling together with how do we have reconciliation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? So that is what Council is being asked to endorse today, all of that thought and all of the feeling and all of the really I would say rational, thoughtful approach that is proposed here. So I will leave it at that and then I am going to go to Councillor Alto who is next and seconded the motion then with respect I will turn to Councillor Thornton-Joe who is another member of the City Family and then I'll look to others to speak.

##### **Councillor Alto:**

Thank you Mayor Helps. I am actually going to precede my own comments by reading a short contribution by Janice Simcoe. Janice is another member of the City Family and she has been

away for the last couple of weeks and so didn't have an opportunity to provide this as part of the story but would certainly like to have it included and has asked for me to read this for her today.

"My name is Janice Simcoe and I am one of the Indigenous members of the City reconciliation Family. I am a Nation of a Quay and Ojibwe woman and I am both an educator and a community advocate. I joined the City Family at the invitation of the City of Victoria and with the support of both the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. The collective decision we made to remove the statue of John A. McDonald from the front entry to City Hall was done with much consideration and with regard for many perspectives. It is true that it is unpleasant for me as an Indigenous person to be reminded of McDonald's legacy every time I visit City Hall, but I do not see my or other Indigenous peoples' discomfort is the most compelling reason to move the statue. Its present location either glorifies or ignores the colonial history that McDonald represents, particularly in regards to his influence and leadership in the development of Canada's Indian residential school system and the history that has caused great harm both to Indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. The City of Victoria needs to engage in truth telling and the development of reconciliation with Indigenous people, starting with the local people on whose territories we live our lives. This action moves us forward in developing a shared narrative and a shared future. Thank you for hearing my words."

And that is from Janice Simcoe. I will just add a couple of things, I won't repeat what I contributed to the story. I think it's important for us to remember that were talking about today does not involve any direction or any destruction of the statue and it's neither hiding, in my view, or nor ignoring history at all, as the mayor pointed out, but I have to say it was interesting for me to listen, to speak as a historian about rewriting how that's often done I didn't grasp this notion, but I think that's an important point. But what we're asking today, what we're proposing as a result of the year of conversation with the City Family is to create time and a space to consider a future for a statue that is a representation of a very complicated man. I think what we're looking at here is a place to protect the statue so that we can take the time to reflect the sum of John A. McDonald in both historical and a modern context and try and examine what is a fair and complete picture of an individual who was so influential in the history of the country. I think we also want to provide a space to create safety and inclusivity for every member of our community and it has been made clear that many, many members of our community, Indigenous and non are troubled by having to pass by the statue as they enter the hall. I think it's important also to remember that while a decision of the City Family, the Songhees and Esquimalt members are part of the family and therefore the words of their Chiefs and Councils as have been appended to the reports are very important because it is the Chiefs and Councils of the two Nations who were the witnesses to the work of the family and the City and the residents of all the City. I think the letters of support are important to examine and I want to just read a line from each of them because I think it's very critical to add this to our understanding of how the family came to this decision.

From the Esquimalt Council and Chief, they note that removing the statue is an important step in the City's reconciliation journey and a symbol of progress towards an end to discrimination and oppression.

In a Songhees letter from Chief and Council, "it speaks to the statue's removal is an important step in the reconciliation process of a visible symbol of progress, of rejecting oppression and embracing a new and inclusive way to work, and most importantly the work that we do together lays the foundation for generations to come".

And I think for me which is possibly the most compelling aspect of this conversation, we have an opportunity here to take a remarkable action based on words that we said last year. We took a huge leap of faith and we decided as a corporation that works conventionally and hierarchies

and structures that are comfortable and easy, that we would embark on something profoundly different. Where we really had no idea of the path or the demands that the path would make of us. We had an idea of a goal but not an outcome, because in fact the goal itself is the outcome. The goal is reconciliation. The path that we take to get there is the most important part of the work. This is an extraordinary opportunity. I think the City has rarely faced this chance to do something so profound that would, in the words of the Songhees Chief and Council "lay the foundation for generations to come". Generations ahead will look at this moment and whatever they think of the task that we look upon today, I believe they will appreciate that we took a chance and that we believed that the work we are doing together is good. I can't imagine not taking that opportunity and I hope my colleagues will agree.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you

**Councillor Thornton-Joe:**

Thank you, and I wanted to first comment that it's been an honour to serve on the committee and be part of the family, and I think the discussion of what to do with the statue of John A. McDonald started even before the family was created and there's been discussions through many years and I think every member of Council will say this is not a new topic. But I think when the City made a decision to declare this year the year of truth and reconciliation, and we recognize that this was not supposed to be just for the year but the start of years of work, and I remember talking about the work that needs to be done and be reminded that it's our work that we need to do thoroughly, that we have to be thoughtful in what we think needs to be done to really do truth and reconciliation. And you know we for years talked about many things that didn't include the statue, everything from documentaries that we were encouraged to watch which were very difficult. We sat, three of us and some staff, and watched the documentaries, read many books that were recommended and I think we all have our own personal experience of being part of the family. I know you know I could talk at length of my experience being there and then when the discussion did come to Sir John A. McDonald, we didn't always all necessary agree. There were different points of view and I think what we learned is from how the First Nations Council works, Chief and Council you keep talking until almost the consensus is formed in everybody's point of view is included and that nobody's point of view is wrong, but we just keep going around and discussing it and so the decision that came forward was not necessary that the statue is gone forever. It is that at this time, it is a recognition that perhaps he should be moved or removed from the front steps of City Hall, a location that is considered a building that is supposed to be welcoming for all and to learn that it may not be is something that was very clear. A lot of the emails that were received, and I think people who have sent emails and letters and of course some have been in support and some have been in an opposition.

One of the words that always seems to come up is "how dare we erase history" and you know history cannot be erased. History is there, but I think how we tell the history and the truth telling. I think one of speakers has already said this, but is really important, one of the things we discussed is how do we? The next phase will be how do we tell the story in a historical modern context, and to get the full truth because I agree there were many great things there, Sir John A. McDonald did for the country and should be recognized, but the other story has to be told that we need to look at how that story is told. So I think it's the history and given the historical modern context and for people that don't even know who Sir John A. McDonald is. I think we need to teach that. I see people take pictures all the time and think "he must be an important man to be standing in front of City Hall", but we don't tell the full story. I think recognizing the location, is this an appropriate location? And I think even in Sir John A. McDonald Historical Society, City Hall was not the first location that was always envisioned or desired. I think this

was the location that was the eventual location that was found and I guess also when the work that's being done for truth and reconciliation. I know we have done things, like we acknowledge territories before meetings and one of things that I remember someone saying is that you know that's really nice, but its meaningful work when it comes to the reconciliation and we need to look for more meaningful ways to acknowledge the history. And in the history, much of it is very positive, but there's also a lot of tragic stories to go along with it. I think it's not to remove the history but to make sure that the City Hall is a welcoming place and I think on a personal note, you know, although this is about reconciliation with City family and the work to the reconciliation with our Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

I have found it interesting that for now 20-25 years, I conducted tours of Chinatown and part of the tour is the acknowledgment of the fact that the Chinese lost the vote, the fact that the Chinese, you know my grandparents, would have had to pay the head tax to come here. Now I'm going to get emotional, and I was going to try not to, and I lead the tour and I walked by that statue, never knowing that that was the person that did that. So on a personal level, when I see the family members and I hear them tell the committee or tell us members that is not about the history of Indigenous people, but the history of their families for their own personal families homes in a larger way that I had expected when I first read about the family. So when I know some people are saying that it's not the wisest thing to do, but I think it is an appropriate thing to do. I end with a quote from a Chinese philosopher, and we talk about this being a journey, and a Chinese philosopher said "a journey of a thousand miles begins with that one step and it's not the whole step". It's not going to be the only step, but I do think this is the first step that the City of Victoria can show that although history cannot be erased, the acknowledgment that some of the history that has affected many people in our community needs to be acknowledged and I think this is the way. Thank you

### **Mayor Helps:**

Thank you Councillor Thornton- Joe. Other speakers, Councillor Lucas

### **Councillor Lucas:**

Thank you, I just want to thank Councillors Alto and Thornton-Joe and Mayor Helps for being our representatives on this committee. I think that they've had extreme courage to come back to the table here today and talk to us about what has been decided, and a way forward. We've been talking about this over the years. I've heard this on and off and I go back to, I believe it was Mayor Lowe who actually started a lot of the conversations with the First Nations that was kind of the first steps and then we started this. Councillor Thornton-Joe just said, we started to say before all of our speeches that you know we were thankful to be on the Territories of the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, and it just seems that here's the progression and it hasn't been just today. This is not the start. This is part of the process that has been going on for quite a few years and I think that what is sad for me is that all I have heard in many of the emails and in the media is that were taking away and they don't talk about the next steps to the statue. It's not just about the removal. There are many more steps that we will be embarking upon. Through our committee that you have, I think that it's just important steps and we don't all have to agree on everything, but I think it's important that we do, as I've heard from all of you is that we are not rewriting history. All of us. And I would suggest most of us have family members that are immigrants that did not have good stories here for all sorts of reasons and not necessarily through Sir John A. McDonald, but many things have impacted on this country and in the immigrants that came here and no, we can never rewrite that. But for me, we become stronger from the learning, our families have the courage that they had to break through those barriers and now were on to that in many different ways. So I look forward to us continuing on this path and I look forward to finding out how we can tell the story of Sir John A. McDonald because he

did some very, very good things for our country and our people and will find the right thing. I'm very comfortable with that. That is going to happen it will take steps to get there but I believe that we will.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you Councillor Lucas.

**Councillor Young:**

I am unable to support the recommendations in the form in which there they've been put in front of us. I see a lack of respect not just to the Council who received it a couple days ago but that the donors who managed to provide a letter that's just come to us, but mostly to the citizens of the city who also want to participate in this dialogue. As my colleagues have mentioned, there are many questions, not just should we remove the statue? But what should we do with it? What should we replace it with? And indeed where do we go from here in terms of this process of reviewing history, looking at how we commemorated. Yes, this subcommittee, this advisory committee, that's called the City Family has been meeting for a year but it hasn't been a public process. It's an advisory committee like any other, some of the members are paid and meets and perhaps slightly more comfortable circumstances. I take it from the Mayor that the word formal agendas and so forth. But obviously, there was significant discussion and the problem for me is that only those members of the committee, not even sure how many there are from the city, most I guess from outside the city, the Esquimalt and Songhees Bands and others, they have had ample opportunity to work through these issues to discuss them but our citizens have not.

I think that the core recommendation that has come forward has some merit. I put a lot of weight on the letters from the Band Councils of the Esquimalt and Songhees, I am very affected by those who say that they find the presence of the statue at the entrance of City Hall gives a negative impact and sense of unfriendliness so I don't disagree that this is a subject that is worthy of discussion, but I think that it's not just the few members, the three members of Council and the few members of the Aboriginal Nations and others who should have the benefit of that discussion. I think it should be a discussion for all of the citizens of the City, and I guess in the words that Councillor Thornton- Joe used we should keep talking. Yes that was the motto of the Advisory Committee, the City family. Why can't that be the motto for the city as a whole, the issues are not simple, and I guess it's said it's not respectful to our citizens. I don't think it's respectful to our history, the leaders of the past.

Obviously we know that many wrong decisions have been made and that Sir John A. McDonald was an advocate of some of those decisions that were made that we now know to be wrong, but all I would say is if knowing what the right thing to do is so easy, why is it that now Aboriginal representation among the homeless, for example, we've heard within the last couple of weeks, among the incarcerated as we know among children in care, among people living under a boil water advisories. Why have we not solved the problem? Are we going to blame Sir John A. McDonald still for setting something in train that where that it's impossible for us to address. Why are we so superior? Why do we think we know everything and they knew nothing, and I guess that's in the sense of we know all the answers now that is really something that kind of upsets me.

Part of it is vocabulary and the quotes that we've seen from Sir John A. McDonald in the background material and in the Mayor's, your website Mayor Helps. We've changed our terminology for a whole lot of things we change the way we refer to Aboriginal people, Inuit, African Canadians, East Asians and South Asians, members of the LGBT Communities, people



with physical and mental disabilities. All of those, all of that terminology, has changed just within the last few years. My memory and I'm not talking about derogatory or slang terms I'm talking about the terms that people of goodwill used. So, to take up two, to pin the word, to blame somebody of more than a century ago for using the wrong terminology words that we now find insensitive and inaccurate is shooting fish that are in a barrel and it's unfair. I can assure my colleagues that all those terms that I just talked about some of them have changed more than once and some of them will change again in the future and somebody quoting your words in the future, our words in the future, will, if they blame us for using the wrong words will be easy to suggest that we have not been grappling with our problems in the wisest way. So, I guess it's that and I guess I won't repeat comments I made earlier about our reaction to some of the past, shameful actions of this Council of many years ago that Councillor Thornton-Joe referred to, but also the discussion that we had when we also passed a motion that I suggested some people in the future may find equally insensitive and discriminatory.

I guess in brief, I would say as much as I may have some sympathy for the recommendations that came out of a year of deliberation by a group. I think it is important that our citizens too should keep talking, that they too should have a chance to hear the views of those who have concerns about the location of the statue to have a discussion about what should we do with not just this commemoration, but with many others, all of them subject and names. Names of streets, the city itself. There are a whole lot of issues that need to be addressed in terms of how we grapple with our history, what we can do, and what we can't do, and I'm afraid that this recommendation to unbolt the statue with almost no notice and to stick it in the warehouse well again this advisory committee debates on what to do with it, that it's not, and which no doubt will come forward again after many months of deliberation, not satisfactory. I think this is a discussion for the public that the public should take part in.

#### **Mayor Helps:**

Thank you very much. Other speakers? Yes, Councillor Madoff.

#### **Councillor Madoff:**

Thank you and thank you very much to my colleagues who've spoken prior to me, this is such an important issue, it's a very emotional issue. It's a community issue and the actions that we are contemplating today are profound and are profoundly important. Hearing the stories from our representatives on the City Family, it is very clear that they have experienced an extraordinary journey over the period of the year and it would've been my hope that the next step of that journey would have been bringing along the broader community because reconciliation is about the broader community. It's about all of us and there is a process outlined here that will say what should happen or what might happen or what will happen and we can deal with that. I wish it was slightly more tangible and I wish that that process was identified here because I think we all know what happens, even with the best of intentions. When any kind of an object goes into storage in particular with the new Council coming in, what guarantee do we have that that process which I think is very well-meaning and very well intended will actually go ahead.

The concern that I have is that the timing of this and the way that the public has been made aware of it has made it unnecessarily contentious and I can't imagine that that would be the desires of those people who participated in this discussion over the last year. And the words that I heard with careful, conscious collaboration which is so critically important. But when I look at this, I feel that even in terms of just notice even if Council's intention is that we will respect the decision of that committee, and basically, we will move forward with it.

How we inform the public is so important and it's, as we all know, I think Council when we first heard about this, I think it was Tuesday evening, we began to hear from the public, but not via their response to, as I understand from what I'd seen, on the City website. It was through other social media so it wasn't being broadcast and that broader way of the media began to ask questions yesterday, which is Wednesday, and so I don't think we can be critical of the shortcomings of the media reporting if they didn't have time to ask the questions and spend the time to understand it as well with the deadlines looming and then it comes to us this morning and of course, this will move forward this evening, regardless of what the vote is on this and then in the information we have that the statue will be removed on Saturday with the intention that there will be a further discussion that it will be relocated with the whole story being told. And to me that is what has always been quintessentially important with any discussion around with a statue or whatever it is. There's no value in removing something of value, it is in telling the whole story and I was interested to see a post by one of the members of the City Family, where Carey Neman saying exactly the same thing. That was my view when the provincial government decided to obscure the murals in the rotunda of the legislature which means we learned nothing, they should still be there and they should tell the whole story. And so I don't think the public is even had a chance to understand what the whole story is coming forward from the City Family in terms of their intention. The understanding that I'm seeing in the emails that we've been receiving is simply a reaction to your removing the statue and people haven't had time to try to digest that. I think it's so important because surely this is just going to be the first of many actions that the City will take over the long term cycles.

My question perhaps is best posed to representatives on the City Family is why is the timing, the way that it is where it's very difficult for, in good conscience to say to a member of the public who says you're rushing this through, you don't want to hear our views. It's very hard to argue against that. So why are we dealing with it with very little notice on the same day removal on Saturday, what is propelling that for something this important where we want the community to really understand what the intentions were of the City Family deliberations and what the intentions are of Council as they move forward with whatever they determine they think the next appropriate step is. What can we do to ensure that people do not feel that we've intentionally excluded their voices?

**Mayor Helps:**

Is that a question you'd like answered at this point?

**Councillor Madoff:**

I would appreciate it if it's in order.

**Mayor Helps:**

Sure, I guess I can answer that as the head of the family. So, no matter when this decision would be made, it would be a contentious decision. It doesn't matter if there's two days' notice, or 20 days' notice as Councillor Lucas and Councillor Thornton-Joe said, this discussion has been going on for years and so I support everything, for the most part, that Councillor Young has said and that you have said that we need to create room for the dialogue to happen. That's the intention. And if we left the statue there or had a debate for the next two weeks or two months with the public it would be, do we keep the statue or do we get rid of the statue? Do we keep the statue or do we get rid of the statue? And so that's where leadership is required. Remove the statue, put it safely in storage immediately and let's have a conversation about reconciliation. Let's have a conversation that's wider than do we keep it or do we let it go. So that's the thinking of the swiftness of the action.

**Councillor Madoff:**

Well, I appreciate that. But even as a normal piece of business, this, folks would have been made aware of that on the Friday when our agendas are published and so again the optics are not very good.

**Mayor Helps:**

Chief Thomas was on the tribal journey and we weren't able to get in touch with him to finalize any of his thoughts until over the weekend so that is unfortunate. Sometimes there are late items and as for the way that the information went out to Council and The Sir John A. McDonald society got a heads up, and then the information was posted just as every other agenda item very publicly on the City's website as soon as the agenda was republished on Tuesday so the information was on the City's website. Just as a regular course of business.

**Councillor Madoff:**

And I'm not suggesting that by having a timing that would be more part of our more regular proceedings would make this less contentious. I think what it would simply signal is that we are interested in not only hearing from our constituents but also being able to have the time to inform them. I mean, I didn't have time to respond to all of those emails saying "you're just going to trash this thing and your rewriting history". I don't have that opportunity when those emails started to roll in, and I know you're saying well this is a conversation or an issue that has been debated for years, the only time that there was discussion about the removal of the John A. McDonald statue was on the part of the society that had commissioned a statue who had wanted it to go in a location that was more closely associated with provincial or federal levels of government as well. It wasn't the discussion around these kinds of issues so my, I'm just concerned that something that is so important and so profound could be tarnished in a way, with it being difficult to respond to why this is such a tight timeline and then we and this is our last Council meeting and we are gone until September. And it's very hard for the public not to feel that this was something that was choreographed and I'm not suggesting that it was to make sure that we didn't hear their voices, and other opinions, and that we didn't have the time to provide that accurate information and I think that's really unfortunate because as I said earlier. It's about bringing everyone along on the journey that we possibly can and not creating divisiveness at this point. Which isn't to say that everyone would agree, but at least they would have had full information. Thank you.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you very much. I have Councillor Coleman next.

**Councillor Coleman:**

Thank you. It's always a compelling discussion we have when we get into issues like this and I need to differentiate between the process and the path forward. The process, first of all, is the City Family. It is as I understand it, an unusual and perhaps a unique opportunity within the country to deal with the coming together of First Nations and municipal entities and that is to be celebrated and it's a journey that three members of Council have gone on the rest of us hadn't have had the advantage of and that's profoundly different so nobody else in Canada can compare their stories to what we've gone through here, and the other members of Council, sadly, haven't had that same opportunity. So that's one process.

The second process is the way it arrived on this table so it's been foreshortened in terms of this particular direction coming forward to us and we're trying to catch up and that's awkward, it's

frustrating for those of us who weren't part of the journey for the last year and we've gone through issues like this in the past I think not too long ago of the discussion of potentially renaming Begbie Street and that was a discussion we had with the public, we went to the community, we went to our First Nations who were residents here and asked their thoughts and the First Nations said "It's not an issue for us". The neighborhood said "we actually like the old name" but that didn't get all of Council to support that, there were some who still want to change, but the majority of Council said we've had a discussion we've heard different input and so were not going to change that name. This one comes to us much quicker and we have to try and understand, and the compelling part, to me that's different than the Begbie issue was the two letters from the two Nations. Saying, "You need to understand as we get to wrap our minds around truth and reconciliation in moving forward. You need to understand how unwelcoming that statue is at the front door".

Not to argue with you, Madam Mayor, when we talk about rewriting history, I would hope those words will be taken as a negative by some folks. It's probably better articulated as we will be broadening our understanding of history because I think it is saying yes there is a story here, Sir John A. McDonald is in the parlance of the day, a father of the Nation, one of, and there are those who would argue that if he hadn't lead that discussion we could be American or we could be part of an independent nation within the commonwealth we would be different. Because of his actions, we are part of Canada and that's a good thing. There are a whole bunch of other aspects that we need to understand and that is just beginning to come to the forefront now for us.

So it's critically important that we understand that and we carry on that discussion and I look at the different histories that we bring to the table, two years ago, the Anglican bishop of this diocese chose to have a Camino of his own. He walked from during the Lenten period, he walked from the north end of the island to the south end of the island. He started by actually being part of the deconstruction ceremony around St. Michael's residential school in Alert Bay and then he walked the length of the island during the Lenten period asking for forgiveness from First Nations for past histories and permission to re-enter their alliance. 25 years ago, that was unthinkable, but it's a recognition that we are changing and were broadening our understanding of how we move forward together. My father years ago used to do a lot of work with the Gallaudet College in Washington D.C, in those days it was called the Gallaudet College for the Deaf and Dumb, totally insensitive and people now might chastise him for those words of the day it didn't make him a bad person. Society has moved on and we've understood more so I recognize all the emotion that is wrapped up in this and I don't want to diminish it or dismiss it. It's important. But the question for me is as we move forward with this, we need to prove, if we support this, we need to prove that were not rewriting history but were broadening the understanding and in the understanding as good hosts that we make people uncomfortable walking through the front doors.

We need to find a way to reposition the placement of the Sir John A. McDonald statue. There are those we've heard from lots of them, who say you're just going to put it away in some dark corner. I think as we move forward, its incumbent on us to make sure that that doesn't happen, the statue needs to be replaced and given a prominent position that tells the whole story. That talks about how we move forward from something that happened 150 years ago to the way we move forward, and we've begun to understand the tragedies of our history and the glories together and this is one that does need the light of inspection. We should be embarrassed by part of our history as Canadians, but it's also incumbent on us to move on and make things better.

So I don't like the way this is ended up at this table. I think it does lead to distrust in many parts of the community, and I've heard through my FCM connections, lots of people across the country who are bemused, annoyed, angry, but they haven't had the advantage of going through the City Family which is particular to Victoria. So I'm quite willing to show faith that we aren't going to sanitize history, were not going to take the statue down and shove it off in the dark corner never to be seen again. I have faith that we will move forward in a way that does allow us to use Sir John A. McDonald statue in a repurposed way that acts as a classic point of education but I recognize that we have made people very angry in this process and that has not been helpful. Thank you.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Councillor Loveday

**Councillor Loveday:**

Council has accepted that reconciliation is a priority and I think it's one of the most, if not the most, important and lasting legacy that will come of this term if it's done well and continues. That means accepting discomfort on unsettling truths and taking courageous action. I've differently heard as we all have, the concerns that this is erasing history, but I've heard more conversation the last 24 hours about our history and about John A. McDonald, both his accomplishments and the terrible legacy of violence that he left and I think it's important that we have that truth telling as a community and I think it's important that that doesn't stop.

I've heard from my colleagues that there needs to be a broader community conversation and I fully agree. We are now having that conversation and I think we need to turn our minds to how we continue to convene that and make sure it brings people in. Councillor Coleman mentioned that there were three people at this table have had a very deep and meaningful process over the last year of conversations as a City Family that others of us at this table were not a part of and so that is an emotional journey that other people need to be brought into. And looking at that, I think the other very important aspect of that is this City as an institution we run on as much as that is a process that is more Indigenous in nature. We still are quite a large bureaucracy that works in electoral cycles, and the fact is we don't know who of us will be at this table in a couple months and we don't know how, so I don't know maybe this work is happening because I'm not part of those conversations, but how we make sure that that work continues, no matter who's at this table and no matter who's at the director level and whatnot so that this is an institutional change so this is more of a community conversation that everyone feels that they're brought into.

We agreed to undertake this process of reconciliation, I think we all knew that that meant that at some point we had to make decisions that were uncomfortable, hard and unsettling, and I think it's also important to remember that we agreed on the framework of what that would look like and we did vote in favour of that. So yes, it was surprising to see this on the agenda, I didn't know it was coming. And yes, that makes for difficult conversations, and yes, I will support the recommendation because we agreed on the process I think I trust the process in which I'm willing to support this and I'm willing to have faith that this will continue as a broader conversation and this hard and necessary work will continue both at the City Family level, at the institutional level, and at the community level moving forward.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Does anyone else wish to add anything else? Yes Councillor Thornton-Joe.

**Councillor Thornton-Joe:**

Thank you and I just want to thank Councillor Loveday in commenting that yes there's been a lot of discussion in the last few days and I think he used the words "uncomfortable" and "unsettling" and I think those were really profound words to describe the last year and I think one of the things we've learned is we went in and I think Mayor Helps mentions in her dialogue, and in the report is that we sort of went in to say this is how the process is going to look like because that's the way we've always done it and we learned very quickly that no, that might not be the way, just because we've always done it that way, wasn't necessarily right or appropriate and perhaps the most respectful way to work with our partners at the table and so I think that is one of the reasons why it's come forward in this way, and one of the things I've heard in some of the letters in the emails and what I hear from Council, is this may be one of the things that makes individuals uncomfortable, besides all the other things that we've heard, is that uncertainty of what's next and the concern that you know this is just a way to get rid of the statue at which I don't think was the intent and so I'm wondering, I'm going to try and propose an amendment and see if perhaps it could be improved upon or supported, and that is that Council requests that the City Family come back, at the latest in a year, with directions and the process for the future for the Sir John A. McDonald statue.

**Mayor Helps:**

And can I help?

**Councillor Thornton- Joe:**

Yes please

**Mayor Helps:**

So Council requests that the City Family come back, at the latest, let's say in six months with the process for the community to have a conversation about reconciliation, including the John A. McDonald something, including the role of John A. McDonald in Canadian and Victorian history.

**Councillor Thornton- Joe:**

And I'm happy with that. I think I just -

**Mayor Helps:**

Moved by myself and seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe

**Councillor Thornton- Joe:**

And I'll second that, and I think I gave a longer timeline just because I know from experience that these dialogues take time and I would've, I think that I would've heard that part of that process would be for community engagement but I think having it in the actual motion I think does pick up the piece that I expected but yeah I think needs to be within the motion.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you Councillor Thornton-Joe, and thanks for letting me to interrupt you where I thought you were going is that we would pop out again in a year with "here's what's going to happen with the statue" and I know that wasn't your intention, but I just want to make it really, really, clear and I'm happy to second this and I think the City Family will be honoured that we are requesting and I think Councillor Alto may disagree. Okay, we can have that conversation. Maybe there is more time needed, but it is true that Councillors as part of the City Family have been involved and my comfort with this is again it's we have to be careful not to override the process that Councillor Loveday laid out, which is that were doing things differently and all that

Council is doing with this amendment is requesting that the City Family come back. So the City Family may actually say well thanks for your request and you know here's all the work we're doing and here's the time it's going to take, and actually we're doing something that's different than that. So this is a request, and I think there does need to be some form of back-and-forth between this Council and the City Family. So that's the reason with this wording that I am happy to support this. Councillor Alto would you like to weigh in or make any improvements.

**Councillor Alto:**

I'm not on the track of making any improvements just on the fly. I guess I would urge just a little bit of caution in the sense that as Councillor Loveday pointed out we did last year endorse a process acknowledging that the process was profoundly different than what we usually do in dealing with the corporate affairs. I guess I'm a little uneasy about trying to make that process fit into our own conventions. When we embarked upon this journey last year we acknowledged repeatedly that this was going to be extraordinarily challenging and that it had literally none of the usual parameters that we expect from projects or programs and that it's very essence relied on our ability to accept that reality. And I'm uncomfortable with what, at first glance appears to be an attempt to box in that difference. There is an uncertainty that is within the core of this process, which I think is one of its strengths, and I think if we believe in the process and if we, as I think a number of people said, if we trust in the process. The very essence of this process is around challenging and tackling difficult issues and trying to create a way forward that will have benchmarks that will be things that are familiar to us, that will be no actions which come forward at different times for our consideration but for us to prescribe those in a way which now has a timeline, a report, the things that we usually expect from our own work as we're operating a conventional hierarchical structure. I'm very uncomfortable imposing that on this and I wonder what message that delivers to the Family and to the Nations about our own belief in the way forward as we have set it out and as we have begun to work together.

We are negotiating, we are creating, we are building and nurturing a relationship in a way forward, which is unlike any other and I believe it is true, as others have said that this is unique in the country as a way to work towards reconciliation and I am very uncomfortable about trying to confine that in an anticipatory way by placing conventional constraints around it. Would I be comfortable having the Family focus its attention as a request from his Council into what I believe is the intent behind this? Absolutely. Am I comfortable saying to them this is what we want from you, even as a request, not at all. I think that this undermines the way forward and opens a door I don't wish to open.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. There may be others who want to speak on this. I have a proposed way forward, and it is going to take trust and it is going to be unconventional and I think you know as even as Councillor Thornton-Joe was word, looking for words for an amendment and I was looking for help I was wanting to go back to cling to that very familiar process. That we make a motion and then give a time frame, and then something happens. So let's try this instead. So I would suggest we defeat the amendment and not make any amendments but I will, now this is the kind of unconventional part, but I am the Head of the Family, and as the Head of the Family, today I will make a public commitment to bring this issue back to the Family with the almost in a way, as an Indigenous speaker does, to recount the discussions that were had at this table today to bring forward the concerns that I've heard from all of my colleagues, representing all of the different opinions and obviously they could watch the webcast but then we never get back into their own process. So my public commitment is to reflect to the Family, the conversation that's being had at the table today and I'm doing that as the Head of the Family and ask the Family, as

the Head of the Family, to take very seriously all the words that have been shared here today in public. That is my commitment as the Head of the Family. Councillor Thornton-Joe.

**Councillor Thornton- Joe:**

Thank you. The comments that Councillor Alto said, she said I feel uncomfortable with and goes back to this whole relationship and the work that is being done. And it is uncomfortable. And with each turn, that is a word that is you know a feeling that is often felt. I like your commitment, but I guess it's trying to find the balance of the two roles that I play in, that recognizing that as part of the Family Member, the way things are done may not be the ways that when I sit at this table is sort of expected. So I wonder, and my concern is, and what brought that motion for this, is in two months or three months that none of us may be at the table and everything may drop without any sort of conclusion, or motion set, that this discussion is just the first step, of the thought of out of sight out of mind, and this is it. I think there needs to be some message that this was one of the first steps. So I take your commitment seriously and support that but I wonder then, whether it should be a Council motion to ask the Head of the Family to take back and that would bring me more comfort because that encompasses what we expect at our table, but recognizing then at the Family table that there's another process that needs to be honoured.

**Mayor Helps:**

I think that's a good way to do it and I had proposed some wording here request that the Mayor keep her public commitment and make the Family aware of the request. That's an amendment to the amendment, request that the Mayor keep her public commitment and make the Family aware of the request or that make the Family aware of the words spoken today. Okay, moved by me, and seconded by Councillor Loveday. This is really hard. I recognize this is very hard. It feels very awkward but that's what reconciliation feels like, unsettling and awkward. So we've got an amendment to the amendment. Councillor Alto.

**Councillor Alto:**

So in our rules, I can longer amend. Is that correct?

**Councillor Mayor:**

That's correct.

**Councillor Alto:**

So I guess I appreciated and understand again what I believe is the intent behind this, but were it possible, I guess I would prefer different wording, make the Family aware again, sorry, for me, it goes back to our directorial type of language. I would've preferred something about "request the Mayor share these remarks with the Family and the Nation" something like that.

**Councillor Mayor:**

Sure, and I'll just interrupt you, once we get this amendment to the amendment passed, we can put that new language in and we're just all kind of making up this, as we work together so that language would be much more appropriate than what I just spewed out but we're working on the fly here. So on the amendment to the amendment, noting that if it passes it will be once again amended. Is there any further discussion. Yes, Councillor Loveday.

**Councillor Loveday:**

I definitely want to honour the process that's been undertaken through the City Family and through this whole process of reconciliation. Leadership is taking these courageous actions.



Leadership is also meeting people where they're at. So I do think it's important that we also have a way to communicate to the public what the process will look like and make that very clear. I think you, we know what we need, even when we say City Family, but most people don't know what that means we might think that we're talking about the City as a family. So really being clear about how we're communicating and what we're communicating to the public I think is key so that they can also have trust in this process and in faith that this will happen in a good way and that there will be a public dialogue that they can be a part of. So I support this and I also look forward to seeing what the amendment to the amendment will be if this passes and or fails.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Further discussion? Okay, all those in favour the amendment to the amendment? Any opposed? Okay, so this is now simply an amendment. Councillor Alto, do you have better language?

**Councillor Alto:**

Let me ask a question first. Is the intent behind this additional line, in whatever form it takes, finally, to be part of the previous paragraph so that what we're ultimately voting on is, we're making a formal amendment that includes the language around the request, the timeline that sort of thing you know.

**Mayor Helps:**

Oh no, that would all be deleted. This language here is to replace all of that.

**Councillor Alto:**

Thank you, just want to clarify that. So I would just suggest perhaps instead of the very last line that it be something a little bit simpler and perhaps say, "Request the Mayor share the intent of the request made by Council today".

**Mayor Helps:**

Good so "Share the intent of the request made by Council today with the City Family."?

**Councillor Alto:**

Yes, sorry okay.

**Mayor Helps:**

I think that you should ask me to keep my public commitment too.

**Councillor Alto:**

Sure.

**Mayor Helps:**

That the Mayor keep her public commitment to share the intent of the request made by Council today with the City Family.

**Councillor Alto:**

I'm happy with that.

**Mayor Helps:**

That amendment to the amendment has been moved by Councillor Alto and is there a seconder? Seconded by Councillor Coleman. Thank you. Discussion? Okay, all those in favour of the amendment to the amendment? Any opposed? Okay, so now if we just need to vote on this as the amendment because it's replaced the original amendment. All those in favour of the amendment? Any opposed? None are opposed. Okay. Any further discussion on this matter? All of those in favour? All those opposed? One opposed, eight in favour. That carries. Thank you. Sorry seven in favour, one opposed, yes we're missing Councillor Isitt.