



## MINUTES - VICTORIA CITY COUNCIL

August 9, 2018, 6:30 P.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 Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. Jenkyns - City Manager, C. Coates - City Clerk, P. Bruce - Fire Chief, 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, J. O'Connor - Manager of Finance, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, P. Martin - Council Secretary, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, J. Handy - Senior Planner

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

The City Clerk outlined amendments to the agenda.

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the agenda be approved as amended.

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

That Steve S, Jason Denny, Gill Stuart, and James Dakota Smith be added to the second Request to Address Council section of the agenda.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **B. Poetry Reading**

*Yvonne Blomer, Poet Laureate, read a poem titled "The whales are suffering from at least three challenges".*

**C. READING OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the following minutes be adopted:

1. Minutes from the special evening meeting held May 3, 2018
2. Minutes from the daytime meeting held July 12, 2018
3. Minutes from the daytime meeting held July 19, 2018

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the following speakers be permitted to address Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D.1 Marian McCoy: Making Moveable Tiny Houses Legal in Victoria**

Outlined why Council should amend the Zoning Bylaw to include movable tiny houses in the definition of garden suites.

**D.2 Nicole Chaland: Community Amenity Contributions**

Outlined why Council should ensure that 20% of all new developments include housing which is affordable to those who live on low income.

**D.3 Lorne Daniel: Community Amenity Contributions**

Outlined why Council should revise the Community Amenity Contributions policy in order to recover additional funds from new developments for public space enhancements and affordable housing.

**D.4 Naomi Devine: Community Amenity Contributions**

Outlined why Council should revise the City's approach to community amenity contributions.

**E. PROCLAMATIONS**

**E.1 "World Refugee Day" - June 20, 2018**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That the following proclamation be endorsed:

1. "World Refugee Day" - June 20, 2018

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **E.2 "Literacy Month" - September 2018**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That the following proclamation be endorsed:

1. "Literary Month" - September 2018

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **F. PUBLIC AND STATUTORY HEARINGS**

### **F.1 Rezoning Application No. 00593 and Development Permit with Variances Application No. 000502 for 930 Fort Street**

Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1156) No. 18-071:

To rezone the land known as 930 Fort Street from the CA-42 Zone, Harris Green Commercial District to the CA-84 Zone, Harris Green (930 Fort Street) District, to permit a 13-storey, mixed-use building with ground-floor retail fronting Fort Street with residential units above.

Development Permit with Variance Application:

The Council of the City of Victoria will also consider issuing a development permit with variance for the land known as 930 Fort Street, in Development Permit Area 7B (HC): Corridors Heritage for the purposes of approving the exterior design and finishes for the 13-storey, mixed-use building as well as landscaping.

#### **F.1.a Public Hearing & Consideration of Approval**

Jim Handy (Senior Planner): *Advised that the application is to allow for a twelve storey, mixed use building with commercial on the ground floor and residential above.*

*Mayor Helps opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.*

Fraser McColl (Applicant): Provided information regarding the application.

Ric Houle (Pandora Avenue): Provided comments regarding the greenspace adjacent to the property.

Larry Lang (Sacramental Avenue): Expressed concerns relating to the placement of the development as well as concerns relating to the community amenity contributions.

Misha Greengrass (Saghalie Road): Expressed concerns relating to the parking variance.

*Council discussed the following:*

- *How a Housing Agreement could be tied to the development.*
- *The allocation of funds received through the density bonus.*

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Lucas

That the following bylaw **be given third reading:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1156) No. 18-071

*Council discussed the following:*

- *That due to the location and access to transit options the parking variance is supportable.*

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

That Schedule 1, section 6.98.2 "Community Amenities" (page 179 of Agenda materials), be amended to specify the following allocation for the community amenity contribution:

- \$103,006.80 ~~\$203,006.80~~ to the Downtown Core Area Public Realm Improvement Fund
- \$100,000.00 to the Housing Reserve
- \$67,668.94 to the Downtown Heritage Buildings Seismic Upgrade Fund.

*Council discussed the following:*

- *That the fund can be used for any improvement relating to capital.*
- *Whether this is the appropriate stage to make changes to the community amenity contribution.*

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

**CARRIED (8 to 1)**

**Main motion as amended:**

That the following bylaw **be given third reading:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1156) No. 18-071

That Schedule 1, section 6.98.2 "Community Amenities" (page 179 of Agenda materials), be amended to specify the following allocation for the community amenity contribution:

- \$103,006.80 to the Downtown Core Area Public Realm Improvement Fund
- \$100,000.00 to the Housing Reserve
- \$67,668.94 to the Downtown Heritage Buildings Seismic Upgrade Fund.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Adoption of Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1156) No. 18-0711 was postponed, pending the registration of a Housing Agreement.*

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Lucas

That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with Variance Application No. 000502 for 930 Fort Street, in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped June 8, 2018;
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variance:
  - i. reduce the number of parking stalls to 27.
3. Proof of a fully executed car share agreement that includes the purchase of 62 car share memberships and \$100 driving credit for each of the memberships to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering and Public Works;
4. Registration of a covenant on the property's title to secure 62 car share memberships and \$100 of driving credit for each of the memberships, to the satisfaction of the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor
5. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F.2 Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00067 for 566, 568, and 570 Yates Street**

Development Permit with Variances Application:

The Council of the City of Victoria will consider issuing a Development Permit with Variances for the land known as 566, 568 & 570 Yates Street, in Development Permit Area 1 – Core Historic, for purposes of allowing residential use on the ground floor of the existing building.

**F.2.a Opportunity for Public Comment & Consideration of Approval:**

Jim Handy (Senior Planner): *Advised that the application is to allow for residential use on the ground level.*

*Mayor Helps opened the opportunity for public comment at 8:03 p.m.*

Michael Alston (Applicant): Provided information regarding the application.

*There were no persons present to speak to the proposed application.*

*Mayor Helps closed the opportunity for public comment at 8:05 p.m.*

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with variance Application No. 00067 for 566-570 Yates Street in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped January 11, 2018.
2. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation Bylaw requirements, except for the following variances:
  - ii. permit residential uses on the ground floor.
3. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F.3 Rezoning Application No. 00579 for 3175-3177 Harriet Road and 105 Burnside Road East**

Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1155) No. 18-068:

To rezone the land known as 3175-3177 Harriet Road & 105 Burnside Road East from the C-1 Zone, Limited Commercial District, to the C1-3 Zone, Limited Commercial (Cannabis) District, to permit a storefront cannabis retailer.

**F.3.a Public Hearing & Consideration of Approval**

Jim Handy (Senior Planner): *Advised that the application is to allow for the retail sale of cannabis.*

*Mayor Helps opened the public hearing at 8:07 p.m.*

Rosetta Duncan (Applicant): Provided information regarding the application.

Ric Houle (Pandora Avenue): Expressed concerns to how the Galloping Goose Trail would be affected.

Resident: Expressed concerns on how school children might be affected when visiting lunch areas nearby.

Resident: Expressed concerns relating to the application due to the limited parking in the area.

Sharon Knights (Marsett Place): Expressed support for the application as it provides a safe environment.

Martie (Qu'appelle Street): Expressed concerns relating to the application due to the lack of parking in the area.

Charles Phillip (Rural Drive): Expressed support for having female operators.

*Council discussed the following:*

- *That the number of parking stalls is sufficient under the Zoning Bylaw.*

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That the following bylaw **be given third reading:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1155) No. 18-068

*Council discussed the following:*

- *The lack of neighbourhood support.*
- *That there is over a kilometer distance to other cannabis related businesses.*
- *The lack of parking in the high traffic area.*

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council allow Councillor Thornton-Joe to speak a second time.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- *That consultation that should have been undertaken by the applicant with neighbours.*

FOR (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, and Councillor Madoff  
OPPOSED (4): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

**CARRIED (5 to 4)**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the following bylaw **be adopted:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1155) No. 18-068

FOR (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, and Councillor Madoff  
OPPOSED (4): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

**CARRIED (5 to 4)**

*Council recessed from 8:58 p.m. until 9:06 p.m.*

**G. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That Rachael Lawson and Charles Phillip be permitted to address Council in this section.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

That the following speakers be permitted to address Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- G.2 Chris Zmuda: Negligent of City Management**  
Outlined why Council should review the allowance of cannabis dispensaries in the City.
- G.3 Randall Thompson: Screaming Seagulls at All Hours of the Night and Day - Michigan/Menzies**  
Outlined why Council should require owners or landlords of buildings to prevent seagulls from nesting on their roofs.
- G.4 Chrystal Hanson: Non-Licensed Marijuana Lounges**  
Outlined why Council should allow licensed cannabis lounges while considering the affect on neighbours.
- G.5 Wendy Varga: Raccoon Management**  
Outlined why Council should take action to control the population of raccoons.
- G.7 Marg Gardiner: Sheltering in Parks**  
Outlined why Council should not include Quadra Park in the proposed Parks Regulation Bylaw to prohibit overnight sheltering in Reeson Park and Quadra Park, unless other parks in residential areas are also included.
- G.8 Ted Smith: Safe Consumption Site**  
Outlined why Council should create bylaws to regulate cannabis lounges.
- G.9 Larry Layne: Better Not Bigger with Six Examples**  
Outlined why Council should follow the phrase "better not bigger".
- G.10 Helen Oldershaw & Roy Fletcher: Beacon Hill Park Trust and Clover Forcemain Project**  
Outlined why Council should reconsider the approval of the Clover Forcemain construction through Beacon Hill Park in light of the City's duties as trustee for the park.
- G.12 Steve Sxwithul'txw: Removal of Statue**  
Expressed support and gratitude for the work done by the City Family and the removal of the John A. MacDonald statue.
- G.13 Jason Denny: Removal of Statue**  
Outlined support for the removal of the John A. MacDonald statue.
- G.14 Bill Stewart: Removal of Statue**  
Outlined support for the removal of the John A. MacDonald statue.



**G.15 James Dakota Smith: Removal of Statue**

Outlined support for the removal of the John A. MacDonald statue.

**G.16 Rachael Lawson: Cannabis Lounge Bylaw Proposal**

Outlined why Council should support the motion regarding an investigation of a pilot program for safe consumption sites for cannabis use.

**G.17 Charles Phillip: Cannabis Lounge Bylaw Proposal**

Outlined why Council should support the motion regarding an investigation of a pilot program for safe consumption sites for cannabis use.

*Council recessed from 10:13 p.m. until 10:20 p.m.*

**I. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**I.1 Committee of the Whole**

**I.1.a Report from the August 2, 2018 COTW Meeting**

**I.1.a.a Request to Install Commemorative Plaque at Irving Park**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council:

1. Approve the installation of the historic plaque recognizing Mifflin Wistar Gibbs, shown in Attachment A, in Irving Park: and
2. Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a license agreement (Attachment C) with Parks Canada, with the terms to the satisfaction of the Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities, in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.a.b Renewing Opportunities for Citizen Involvement in Emergency Preparedness**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council:

1. Requests that staff engage Emergency Management BC, WorkSafeBC, Victoria Firefighters Local 730, and Victoria Emergency Program volunteers and report back to Council in the Quarterly Update in December 2018 with recommendations to renew opportunities for citizen

involvement in emergency preparedness, giving consideration to issues including:

- effective coordination of volunteers with command structures and responsibilities of professional first responders in the Victoria Fire Department and other municipal, provincial and federal agencies;
  - insurance coverage for volunteers providing assistance during emergencies;
  - opportunities for training and skills development for volunteers; and
  - public education opportunities to broaden citizen engagement in emergency preparedness and response efforts.
2. Requests that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write to the BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, requesting that the Province of British Columbia and its agencies Emergency Management BC and WorkSafeBC work with the City of Victoria to renew opportunities for citizen involvement in emergency preparedness, including Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer certification of urban search and rescue volunteers to ensure eligibility for insurance coverage.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.a.c 90 Saghalié Road - Development Permit Application No. 000525 (Victoria West)**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Madoff

That the proposal be referred back to COTW and the Advisory Design Panel after the applicant has made revisions to the proposed design to terrace the upper storeys of the building and further address site topography, consistent with the applicable Design Guidelines and the objectives of Development Permit Area 3, while maintaining adequate distances between existing buildings.

FOR (7): Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (2): Mayor Helps, and Councillor Coleman

**CARRIED (7 to 2)**

**I.1.a.d 3031 Jackson Street - Update Report for Rezoning Application No. 00627 and Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00063 (Hillside/Quadra)**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

1. That first and second reading of the Zoning Regulation Bylaw Amendment be considered by Council and a Public Hearing date be set for the proposed development outlined in Rezoning Application No.00627 for 3031 Jackson Street.
2. That Council, after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, and after the Public Hearing for Rezoning Application No. 00627, if it is approved, consider the following motion:  
"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with Variances Application No. 00063 for 3031 Jackson Street, in accordance with:
  1. Plans date stamped March 29, 2018.
  2. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation Bylaw requirements, except for the following variances
    - i. reduce the lot width from 60.0m to 53.17m
    - ii. reduce the separation space between the building with units 1 & 2 and the building with units 3 & 4 from 7.50m to 4.90m
    - iii. reduce the separation space between the building with units 3 & 4 and the building with units 5, 6, 7 & 8 from 7.50m to 7.30m
    - iv. reduce the distance between the building with units 1 & 2 and the building with units 3 & 4 from 10.0m to 4.90m
    - v. reduce the distance between the building with units 3 & 4 and the building with units 5, 6, 7 & 8 from 10.0m to 6.68m
  3. Revised plans, to the satisfaction of the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, that state the 7.0m distance behind the visitor parking stalls 3, 12, & 13 does not exceed an 8% grade.
  4. The Development Permit lapsing two years from the date of this resolution."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.a.e**

**Pilot Dog Leash-Optional Areas Report Back**

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That Council extend the pilot project for two years in Fisherman's Wharf Park, Oaklands Park, and Barnard Park and change the time from 6:30 to 9 a.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.a.f Funding for School Crossing Guard Program**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council directs staff to bring forward amendments to the 2018 Financial Plan Bylaw to provide funding in the amount of \$27,725 to the Greater Victoria Crossing Guards Association, to cover costs associated with the School Crossing Guard Program for the remainder of 2018.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.a.g Funding for the Vancouver Island South Film & Media Commission**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council:

- Direct Staff to award an additional \$25,000 from the City's 2018 corporate contingency funds, to the Vancouver Island South Film and Media Commission.
- Direct Staff to Consider Alternative future funding options during the 2019 City budget process and request a business plan from the film commission to assist staff with this work.
- Request that the film commission report to council in 2019 on the economic impact of the film commission in the City of Victoria in 2018.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.b Report from the August 9, 2018 COTW Meeting**

**I.1.b.a 1159 View Street - Development Variance Permit Application No. 00213 (Fernwood)**

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

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**

**I.1.b.b 727 and 733 Courtney Street - Development Permit Application No. 000529 (Downtown)**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

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

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.b.c Support for Victoria 2020 Canadian Francophone Games**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**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**

**I.1.b.d 2018 Municipal Election**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

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**

**I.1.b.e Support for a National Strategy to Combat Plastic Pollution**

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday  
**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

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**

**I.1.b.f South Island Prosperity Project Annual Presentation**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council received the report for information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

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 (6): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

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

**CARRIED (6 to 3)**

**I.1.b.h**

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

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

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.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**I.1.b.i**

**Public Opinion Poll on Establishing a Citizens' Assembly on Amalgamation of Victoria and Saanich**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

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*'.

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Isitt

**CARRIED (8 to 1)**

**I.1.b.j**

**Fair Trade City**

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

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:

1. The City of Victoria becomes a "Fair Trade Town";
2. 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;
3. The City of Victoria publish campaign/designation information on the municipality's website;
4. The City of Victoria attract media attention and promotes its status as a Fair Trade Town;
5. 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.

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, and Councillor Thornton-Joe  
OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

**CARRIED (8 to 1)**

**I.1.b.k 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**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

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.

*Council discussed the following:*

- *The importance of this first step of reconciliation.*
- *Concerns relating to the lack of public process and relocation of the statue.*

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the meeting be extended to 11:30 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Council discussed the following:*

- *The importance of honouring the request from the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.*
- *That the statue doesn't welcome all members of the City into City Hall.*

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That Council allow Mayor Helps to speak a second time.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Mayor Helps

**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

Direct staff to append a transcript of the August 9, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting, including the Mayor's public commitment, to the minutes of this Council meeting.

**Amendment to the amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the amendment be amended to include the August 9, 2018 Council meeting.

**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.
3. Direct staff to append a transcript of the August 9, 2018 Committee of the Whole and Council meetings, including the Mayor's public commitment, to the minutes of this Council meeting.

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

**CARRIED (8 to 1)**

**K. BYLAWS**

**K.1 Bylaw for Rezoning Application for 672 Niagara Street**

**Moved By** Councillor Lucas

**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the following bylaw **be given first and second readings:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1164) No. 18-092

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K.2 Bylaw for Rezoning Application for 483/485 Garbally Road and 2960/2962 Bridge Street**

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the following bylaw **be given first and second readings:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1163) No. 18-089

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K.3 Bylaw for Rezoning Application for 1418 Lang Street**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Lucas

That the following bylaw **be given first and second readings:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1159) No. 18-083

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K.4 Bylaw for Rezoning Application for 502 Discovery Street**

**Moved By** Councillor Madoff  
**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the following bylaw **be given first and second readings:**

1. Zoning Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 1160) No. 18-084
2. Heritage Designation (502 Discovery Street) Bylaw No. 18-079

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K.5 Bylaw for Land Use Procedures for Affordable Housing Fees**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the following bylaw **be given first, second, and third readings:**

1. Land Use Procedures Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 9) No. 18-090

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K.6 Bylaw for Tax Exemption for 888 Government Street and 811-813 Wharf Street**

**Moved By** Councillor Madoff  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the following bylaw **be adopted:**

1. Tax Exemption (888 Government Street / 811-813 Wharf Street) Bylaw No. 18-063

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Lucas, Councillor Madoff, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young  
OPPOSED (2): Councillor Isitt, and Councillor Loveday

**CARRIED (7 to 2)**

**K.7 Bylaw for Amendment to Parks Regulation Bylaw**

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe  
**Seconded By** Councillor Lucas

That the following bylaw **be adopted**:

1. Park Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 9) No. 18-044

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the meeting be extended to 11:45 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**M. NEW BUSINESS**

**M.1 Investigation of Pilot Program for Safe Consumption Sites for Cannabis Use**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back at the next Quarterly Update on the implications of the following actions:

1. That staff be directed to investigate regulations in other jurisdictions governing safe consumption sites for cannabis use.
2. That this review take into consideration the City and County of Denver, Colorado's Cannabis Consumption Pilot Program, as well as the regulatory context in the City of Victoria arising from regional, provincial and federal regulations.
3. That staff report back to Council on the advisability of initiating a Pilot Program or introducing regulations for safe consumption sites for cannabis use.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**N. QUESTION PERIOD**

A question period was held.

**O. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That the Council meeting adjourn.  
TIME: 11:34 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR

DRAFT

## 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.

## **Appendix B**

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

#### **Item I.1.b.k: 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'll go to the mover and the seconder, and then Councillor Isitt I'll go to you since you didn't get to speak to this this morning. Councillor Alto.

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

I'm not sure where to start. I won't repeat what I said this afternoon but I will just say a couple things. I think it's important for us to acknowledge the opportunity that we have here to take a step that though perhaps small in and of itself, I think, is concrete action that begins to tell the story of what the City is prepared to do in order to put something behind the words that it said. Last year, as you all know, we made some important decisions about a process and that process has been unfolding since that time. While it's been challenging and invigorating and enlightening, it's also common with the recognition that each time a process unfolds and returns to this body, it will do so with presentations and ideas that may be very unfamiliar and very uncomfortable and have an expectation that we will receive those ideas with open arms and open hearts. The last few days have been very interesting to say the least. I think it's been a great opportunity for us to begin to challenge one another, and ourselves, and our community to see how deep is our commitment to reconciliation. I believe it's very deep, but I believe it's very new and I think that the conversations that we began to have are important in indicative that there is much yet to say, and much more ground to cover, but I do believe that there is a significant number of people, majority people, if not all of the people who believe this is an important conversation and must unfold and it will unfold and will be embraced at some point. I looked back at the letters from the Chiefs and Councils for such an important part of our process, who have themselves members of the City Family at the core of this process and think of their references to how the step begins to change the history of repression and the importance of the step in rejecting that type of behavior and assumption. But more importantly in looking forward to say that this is a beginning step as a foundation for generations of understanding. I think that's the most important thing for me. When we embrace this very small step, we recognize and make a further commitment to keep walking together and understand that the journey is long but it's a journey that will change all of our lives for the better. So I thank my colleagues for their patience with the process and I commend them for the patience that will show in the future as the journey continues at the pace it needs. And I hope that everyone will support this tonight.

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

Thank you. Councillor Thornton-Joe.

##### **Councillor Thornton-Joe:**

Thank you and I probably will repeat some of the items that I said today. I think there are two aspects that are part of the discussion. One is whether there are concerns about the process and the second piece is whether the action is supportable. I was trying to describe the process to my husband today and was trying to describe how when we first went to the meetings, I think we had in our minds that this is the way the meetings should go and how we would report out and we learned very quickly that we were putting our City way of doing things and we learned very quickly

that for real reconciliation we needed to be flexible. We need to be nimble. We need to be open to a new way of having this discussion with the family members and to come to a decision regarding what might be done. I think it's one of the worst words that was said so often as well as was said this morning was that there were many times we were uncomfortable and it was meant to be uncomfortable because the discussion is uncomfortable and to acknowledge the history is also uncomfortable. We continue to get emails that say that we should not be erasing history and I'm going to say again that history is done, it's done. That it's not going to be erased but we can make a decision on how we tell the story and the full story. It's like any history class when you've only been given one piece of the history without the other piece you can't move forward in feeling that you know your history without the full context and I think this gives us the opportunity for that full context and I think for the most part I'm not saying that the statue needs to go away forever. I don't know that's going to be discussion that we will have. But what I'm very clear about is whether it should be in front of City Hall when we have said over and over that this place is a place to be welcoming for all and it's very clear that with the statue there, it's a clear message that it isn't a place that is welcoming to all. And I think it's very clear also in the letter that this wasn't the first choice of location, whether the Prime Minister, whether he was ever in Victoria whether there is a more appropriate location for the statue to be, may be a discussion that we'll have in the future, which is why I did the second part of the motion because I believe that there needs to be a second piece of it. So I did want to thank the speakers who came out tonight and I'm really going try and not to be emotional tonight, but especially the young man who came up and spoke in his language because he was a young man and part of the whole lesson we learned was the not being allowed to practice your language. So to see a young man do that I think was very moving to me. So you know I think we need to have this discussion. I think it's been an important discussion that has permeated through not only the City but throughout Canada and people are questioning and I think many people that have questioned it, to me, is that because they only talk about the good that Sir John A. McDonald did and I don't diminish any of the things that he did for Canada but I also have to acknowledge the things that he did that are horrible. And in my DNA I have Chinese ancestry and although this was to do with reconciliation, we can't deny that the same gentleman proposed that Chinese men not have the right to vote on the grounds that they were foreigners and that the Chinese have no British instincts or British feelings or aspirations and because of that, he took away the right for the Chinese to vote. He worked to bring forward the Exclusion Act and worked to bring Head Tax. And then on the personal level in my ancestry is my great-grandmother was also from the Interior Salish and so to acknowledge what John A. McDonald did to the First Nations, is something that can't be ignored, so I really appreciated being in the Family. I learnt a lot and I think as we call this so often a journey, and I think this is a journey and I said this morning one of my favorite philosophers Lao Tzu, said a journey is "a thousand miles starts with one step" and this is the first step and Councillor Alto said "this is maybe a small action", but I can't help but also remember the saying, "where a stone, small stone, can drop into a puddle and that little small stone of action can reverberate to a larger context" and I think that's really important for us to remember. So I will be able to support the removal of the statue to be placed in a place, a safe place, until other discussions are had and the time to heal and to cleanse is able to be done.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Councillor Isitt

**Councillor Isitt:**

Thank you. This is one small first step toward establishing respectful relations between Indigenous and non-indigenous people. There has been a lot of talk over the past few days about erasing history but erasing history is what has been going on for the last 175 years that settler people and their governments have occupied and expanded their power in this Algonquian territory. Our current approach to commemoration conceals the history of this place and the experiences and

impacts of colonization. Removing the statute has initiated an important dialogue about this history and this dialogue needs to continue and deepen into the future. I think the statue could be relocated to the grounds of the Provincial Museum with interpretive information that situates John A. McDonald in appropriate historical and cultural context. I want to express my appreciation to everyone who shared their views with City Council in relation to this decision and I particularly want to thank anyone who advocated for the City to demonstrate leadership by pursuing a different path than the path taken by generations of settler governments that have come before us. For these reasons, I support the decision to remove the statue and begin the journey down a new path.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Councillor Young.

**Councillor Young:**

It's impossible to separate the process from the action because in some ways the action is the process. We've heard some affecting speeches tonight. I think it would really have been a good thing if all of our citizens have had the privilege of listening to those. Instead, tragically, instead of a process of reconciliation, tragically, what we're seeing is a divisive action. What is clearly being perceived as a precipitated step taken in the middle of summer with almost no notice, barely outside the legal minimum notice of a motion to Council, with no notification virtually no notification to the public. I was going to say "snuck through" but it does appear that the press has taken notice of it and it has become a subject of discussion, but unfortunately an unnecessarily divisive discussion. The discussion will be about the speed of the step. The fact that there was almost no input that the ultimate disposition of the statue is undecided. It is unseemly that this work of art and I say that advisedly it is, it besides being a symbol, a commemoration, that is also a piece of art. I understand it cost \$90,000 when it was commissioned almost 40 years ago. Its replacement value nowadays is some \$300,000. I hope that those people who are charged with removing it and jack hammering it out of position, I understand it's rebar goes deep into the plinth, will take sufficient care of that. But it is unseemly that that this piece of art donated to us by a group of citizens should be almost in the blink of an eye jack hammered out and stuck away in a warehouse. One of the parts of this tragedy, is that the City, the original location as I think comes from, Councillor Thornton-Joe mentioned, "was not intended to be at the gates of City Hall". It was intended for a more neutral location in Centennial Square. The Mayor at the time, who was one of the donors, offered the door of City Hall as a location and it was put there but I think that in fact many of our citizens, even those who have written and sometimes quite strongly against the removal of the statue also recognize the need to achieve reconciliation and I think people in Victoria are people of goodwill. I think that a considered recommendation to allow some discussion to a plan that we could agree on to respectfully remove the statue from its location to find a new location in a new kind of discussion about it. I think we could have avoided what has and what is becoming an unpleasant and divisive argument and I would appeal to those of my Council colleagues who have expressed concerns about the process to raise your hands and say no. There is no reason why this has to be done on Saturday. This is an action that does not have to be rushed into, this discussion can take place, and it should take place and rushing into this is no reference in the letters from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations about by the end of business on Saturday. There is a recognition that sometimes these things take time, but the fact is that taking time can give a better outcome. The committee spent a year reaching this conclusion, yet it expects that our citizens will spend 36 hours and reach the same conclusion is unreasonable.

\*Interruption from gallery\*

**Mayor Helps:**

We have to let him finish and let him speak. May I please ask for respect? When you were speaking earlier we sat here and listened and this is Councillor Young's time to speak so you can speak with him after the meeting, but please let Councillor Young to continue. Please let him speak. I respectfully request, we've been sitting here listening to the public, including many of you all evening. We had probably about 25 speakers and we sat and listened without any...so Councillor Young, go ahead.

**Councillor Young:**

These are important discussions, and they should take place in an open and respectful manner. We know from the communications we've received already that there are differences of view. I think that many of those views could be reconciled. I think people have to listen to each other. They're not getting an opportunity to do so because of the actions of this Council which wants this statue whisked away and put in the warehouse by the end of the day after tomorrow. It is, it's not right.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you Councillor Young. I will speak next and I'm not going to repeat much of what I said this morning but I want to speak about the process and I think that Councillor Young and I, not in all ways, but on the idea of the process aren't as far apart as it might sound. And I hope that this is the direction that Council go in and in the spirit in which Council will see it. There are lots of conversations that can be had about reconciliation in our community and what we've heard very clearly from the City Family and importantly from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations is in order to have the conversation that Councillor Young is talking about, in order to talk about "what does reconciliation mean" for non-indigenous members of Victoria's community. How do we reconcile the fact that the City is here on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. How do we convene and as someone was speaking earlier, I thought maybe we have a day or days of Victoria's own Truth and Reconciliation Commission just for the City of Victoria with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the public. What we've heard very clearly that in order for what Councillor Young wants to happen and what I want to happen and what I think all of us want to happen in order for the space to be opened up for that kind of conversation, it's important that the symbol of the pain is stored safely and carefully and were going to have our arts and culture staff who are responsible for our Public Art Program. They will be there on Saturday to make sure that the statue is taken care of that in order to have this conversation in a meaningful way so that everybody can participate. And so it's not about yes or no, John A. McDonald to be put here to be put in there, to put it wherever. We need to have a different kind of conversation and in order for that conversation, the very conversation that Councillor Young wants to happen, we need to remove that statue from public space in Victoria so there's room for everyone to participate. And this is really challenging, we've heard tonight and Councillor Coleman put it so eloquently earlier in the day, challenging me quite gracefully, that we're not rewriting history. What we're doing is broadening history or broadening our story of what it means to be Canadian. And somebody earlier this evening, spoke about transforming the story and it's really hard for us non-indigenous Canadians to be unsettled in this way. It's hard to have our identity as Canadians challenged. It's hard to know that our first Prime Minister did all these terrible things. It's hard for that. It's hard for us and I don't know, obviously, I'm not saying poor us, but I understand why this is such a challenging conversation for the community and I understand really clearly that in order to have the conversation that Councillor Young wants to have that our residents want to have that we want to have, we need to take this action. And we need to take this action swiftly and it is uncomfortable without question. It's uncomfortable. And we have to sit in this discomfort as a Council and as a community and that's how were going to move forward. And I think my hope and you know our



citizens, I think both Councillor Young and I think Councillor Alto talked about this, are very generous, empathetic, curious and interested people and I believe that we can have this conversation as a community over the next many years and reconcile together not only a statue and where it goes but how we live well together in a City that's founded on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. Would anyone else like to weigh in again? Councillor Madoff.

**Councillor Madoff:**

Thank you, as it's been said, this is a small but important step on a much longer journey and it's also been referenced that even around our table, the experience of that journey is very different. The people who have participated in the City Family have had a very different experience than the rest of us have on Council, then to say then what the public has had, so this may be considered a sort of literally, figuratively, a monumental decision. The significance of the action is not what I find challenging in the least. I don't find this hard. I find it's the right thing to do in many ways. It's the misgivings on the process that I have and it puts me in a position where I am so supportive of the action as I understand it, but I'm really, I suppose I just mourn the lost opportunity that we had to bring more people along with us on this journey from the beginning and not have to try to heal something else again as we involve the broader public. In this discussion on this specific issue, but also the broader issues that we will be discussing for years to come. And in following the media, whether it's print, television, radio, all the emails that I've been reading all the Facebook posts all the social media. I have yet to find anybody who is commenting on, or aware as I understand it, that this is not just removal but it's the opportunity for the relocation and the opportunity to tell the whole story. If that wasn't there, I could not support this. As I said this morning my view, when the provincial government was debating what to do with the murals in the rotunda of the legislature was I felt very strongly that they should not be covered up but the story should be told. So I get a little uneasy when the statement was made. I don't know if it's going to go away forever. Because I can't support this if the notion is it's going to go away forever and were not going to tell the whole story. It's been intimated, and it's been suggested that that's what's going to happen, but I'm not getting that clarity in the comments from my colleagues this evening and I think even if you just look at the way it's reported on our Committee of the Whole Report, interested members of the public reading that motion would have no idea what we're doing because of the way it's worded, it simply speaks to removal and then the public commitment to share the intent of the request made by Council today with the City Family. How does anybody know what that request is. So I think we have got to a degree, folks who were very upset because they don't understand because we have been told the story of what our intention is and the intention is so important as we move forward and I don't know if there's an opportunity for this to be amended in some way so that when somebody searching to find out what was a decision that our Council just made, that it would communicate something. Because it doesn't communicate anything unless you been deeply involved in the process itself and I think you could do a briefing note for that sort of thing, but this is the official record of what Council's intention was, and what actions are that are associated with it and I think when we had that discussion this morning we worked our way around in this language, not wanting to be too explicit in terms of an instruction to the City Family, but at the same time, if we've got removal of the statue, would this not be the appropriate place to talk about the opportunity for relocation to tell the whole story or the language that's in the letter from the Mayor where she talks about recontextualizing the Sir John A. McDonald statue which would then provide an opportunity for that whole story. So not having been part of the City Family, and that part of that culture I'm really looking to you Mayor Helps, how can we make this clear at this point about what our intention is moving forward?

**Mayor Helps:**

Well the most honest answer is we can't. Because there is no clarity about where the path of reconciliation will lead and we can't make motions to put something somewhere and this is from –

I'm looking back at the report from 2017 that's appended to our report this morning. At the same time the City heard a clear message from the Chief, this is our work and we need to take responsibility for doing that work with integrity, an open heart and a willingness to work in diverse ways and take the time needed. Reconciliation is the way forward. It is the process not the outcome. Reconciliation is "how" not "what". So there's a great discomfort and I mean what I think to answer your question what you need to do is to trust in the process that has been adopted by Council and I think that in terms of the City Family, and I think you know one of the lessons learned from this is maybe the City Family needs to have more of an interface with City Council and to draw Council members in in a way that's not a Council meeting. So Councillor Madoff all I can tell you is the truth that's in my heart, which is to take all of the things that we heard back here about the importance of recontextualizing, about the importance of telling a fuller story to take that back to the Family and go from there.

**Councillor Madoff:**

But how is that in itself communicated to the public so that they understand that because that doesn't tell people what we're doing in terms of what is the request. What is your public commitment?

**Mayor Helps:**

So again I have a suggestion, and it's a bit cumbersome, but this is really the cumbersome nature of working across two ways of doing and knowing. So what I would suggest is and it will make a little bit of work for staff, but we would transcribe the comments that I made this morning about my public commitment and what I would take back and that we append the transcription to the minutes of this evening's Council meeting. So it will be very clear what my public commitment is in writing as people follow this thing through our minutes. That's the best thing I can think of so there will be a written record of what I have publicly committed to. While you're thinking Mr. Coates is tapping his watch, noting that we've gone past 11 and we need a motion to extend the meeting to 11:30? Moved by Councillor Coleman and seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe. All those in favor? Any opposed? Councillor Madoff you still have the floor and I acknowledge this is very uncomfortable and it is for me as well.

**Councillor Madoff:**

And not uncomfortable for reasons that people might expect. It's just uncomfortable for me in terms of what the undertaking is. And even if there isn't an opportunity to specifically lay out that the statue will be relocated. I suppose to me the most important principle of it is that the whole story will be told.

**Mayor Helps:**

Absolutely.

**Councillor Madoff:**

Okay.

**Mayor Helps:**

Anyone else? Councillor Loveday.

**Councillor Loveday:**

I won't repeat too many of my comments that I made this morning but if we're serious about reconciliation and we need to be. We need to honour this request that came from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the decision of the City Family to remove the statue. I found out about this when it was on the public agenda on Tuesday night and I spent most of my waking hours

thinking about it ever since. Just sitting with it and it is uncomfortable and that's good because we're facing unsettling truths and hearing many people talk about the erasure of history. I think this is the exact opposite. It's sitting with more of the fullness of history and I think that's clear by the amount of public dialogue that's happened in the last 24 hours and the fact that we had more truth telling about John A. McDonald in the last 24 hours than I've ever heard in my lifetime. A lot of things that I've learned in the last couple of years since this issue really has been brought to the forefront, were not things I ever learned in school. They were never things that weren't in the history books that I was taught, but they are true. And I think that speaks to the needs that some of my other colleagues have mentioned to bring the public along with this conversation but I agree that the right step now is to honour the request that has been made to vote to remove the statue tonight and so I will support that as a tangible step towards reconciliation with the local Nations whose land this is built on.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Councillor Coleman. And then after everyone's spoken, I'm going to request an opportunity to speak one more time because I have an amendment to make that will help address process wise some of what Councillor Madoff has requested. Councillor Coleman go ahead.

**Councillor Coleman:**

Thank you. I shared a number of stories this morning as we went through this discussion and I think I would like to share some others. A number of us said that we didn't like the way this ended up on our table this morning. I was one, the shortness of finding out about it and seeing how quickly the impact will be felt with the statue coming down on Saturday felt more than awkward, but that process flaw from my perspective isn't fatal to moving this forward so I would like to share as I said some other stories. Councillor Alto and I had the advantage of being at our sister city in New Zealand. And it was my return to New Zealand after 30 something years of playing rugby previously and the change that that country had seen in terms of reconciliation between a settler population and the Maori population was extraordinary. And they found ways to overcome some pretty nasty tensions when I was there earlier playing rugby. I think that we need to take a look at the grace that has allowed New Zealand to move forward and try and learn from it. I think of another great image from the movie *Invictus* so it's a movie about rugby so you know I like it. There is a moment when Nelson Mandela who has taken over, given his personal history and his people's history. He's taken over government and the quintessential issue is we're going to change the name of all South Africa's sports teams. When their hosting the Rugby World Cup and Nelson Mandela turns to the other members of the AMC and says, but not for rugby, were going to keep the name of The Springboks and the NCO look at him, horrified and say but "no, we can't do that" and he says "no", if we want to unify as a people we need to accept both cultures, and its transformative and within months, people of all colours in South Africa are cheering for the Springboks in the World Cup which they win. Perfect Hollywood style story, but it is indicative of where we should go. I'm not suggesting that Sir John A. McDonald is our version of the Springboks issue, but it might not be a bad story to relate to the City Family as you've promised to do as we carry this work because it is about accepting both sides and broadening the story. I think it is appropriate to remove the statue and I understand the reasons for that. I haven't gone through the path of the City Family as three members of Council have, but I think I got teased this morning by Councillor Alto for using the word "faith". A number of times I have faith that this will be properly discussed and moved forward. I also have faith that we will not hide the Sir John A. McDonald statue away in some dark corner. We will find a way to repurpose it. That allows us to carry on that story. The broader story of Canadian history. I also had the advantage, Steve presented to us tonight and I had the advantage of having coffee with them this afternoon because we chatted after this morning's discussion and I don't think he'd mind me relieving this because he actually posted it publicly, he went down and took a picture with the statue and titled it, "The man who changed my

families lives. But I've learned to forgive him". That's more gracious than most of us can be. This does take grace, there will be people who will be angry and I get that. But I think as we move forward it is important and the reason it's important is we have an icon at the front door that doesn't welcome everybody. Now most of you know, I spent a lot of time working out of Christ Church Cathedral and I'm very aware that it's a glorious building if you've drunk the Kool-Aid and you're happy going into a Christian Church. To people who haven't drunk that Kool-Aid aren't familiar with that. It looks like a foreboding castle and if you actually get up to the first set of doors and work your way in, there's a second set of doors that stop you. So we have to be gracious outside and that's a house of faith. Here we have an icon at our front doorstep that makes people uncomfortable and it's a public facility. We shouldn't be doing that. We need to find a way to make sure that everybody is comfortable coming in and we can still use the statue as an educational piece that explains a broader story so I can support this but I think Councillor Madoff is absolutely right. We need to make sure that the discussion carries on in a graceful way and Madam Mayor, you not only have made a public commitment to carry this forward to the City Family you will become the focus of anybody who wants to make sure that they're part of that narrative going forward to the public family. So you know there will be lots of stuff we, as the rest of Council, should be trying to help you in that discussion, but I think it is important that we embrace this and move it forward calmly. I know lots of people will show lots of emotion but this is about taking a profoundly important first step. I go back to the Nelson Mandela understanding the look on his face when he says "no you don't understand how important this is to bring two peoples together as one nation", so for what that's worth. Thank you.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Anyone else? Anything else? Okay, may I have a motion to allow me to speak again? Thanks, moved by Councillor Isitt, is there a seconder? Seconded by Councillor Coleman. All those in favor? Any opposed? And in case people are wondering why we do that our bylaw allows everyone to speak once at a Council meeting except the mover of the motion who can speak twice so we need a motion to speak again. So I would like to direct staff, as a third piece, direct staff and sorry staff this will be a bit of work but I think that there is an electronic means now to do transcription. Direct staff to append a transcript of the Committee of the Whole Meeting including the mayor's public commitment to the meeting minutes of this council meeting. Is there a seconder? That way everything that everyone said this morning, everyone's literal words will be part of the public record as well as my commitment to transmit those words back to the City Family. All those in favor? Sorry, yes Councillor Isitt.

**Councillor Isitt:**

What about this meeting? Where the decision is actually being taken because this is legislatively our more important meeting.

**Mayor Helps:**

That's correct, but this morning is the meeting where I made the public commitment. But yes, would you like to make an amendment to add the transcript?

**Councillor Isitt:**

Sure, after Committee of the Whole meeting, and the August 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**Mayor Helps:**

Thank you. Is there a seconder for that amendments? Thanks Councillor Coleman. All those in favor of adding words "and the August 9th Council meeting?" Any opposed? All those in favor of adding all of - oh yes Councillor Alto.

**Councillor Alto:**

If we're going to identify this evening's date, we should probably do the same thing for this morning's meeting as well.

**Mayor Helps:**

Yes the August 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Councillor Alto:**

Yeah the August 9<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**Mayor Helps:**

Sure, that doesn't need an amendment. Just transcript of the August 9<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. Staff if you can just add those words and committee of the whole. So we voted on the amendment to the amendment. So now are voting on direct staff to append a transcript of the August 9<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting and the August 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting including the Mayor's public commitment to the minutes of this meeting. All those in favor of that amendment? Any opposed? Any further discussion? All those in favor? Those opposed? Eight in favor, one opposed, that carries.

DRAFT