## Section I - Items for Board of Directors Action

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

Friday, June 24, 2022 Meeting

**FROM:** Anil Wijesooriya, Director, Restoration and Infrastructure

RE: INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Update on Indigenous engagement efforts and initiatives

## **KEY ISSUE**

Update on Indigenous engagement efforts and initiatives.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Chief Executive Officer be authorized to execute a relationship agreement(s) with First Nations should there be mutual interest;

THAT TRCA's updated Engagement Guidelines and policies continue to benefit from consultation with First Nations and input from the TRCA Indigenous (First Nations and Metis) Engagement Working Group;

THAT TRCA continue to advocate for enhanced funding for the transformation of Black Creek Pioneer Village so as to better incorporate First Nations historical perspectives;

AND FURTHER THAT the Indigenous Engagement Working Group report back to the Board of Directors on an annual basis with updates on learnings, progress and details on relationship agreements should a relationship agreement be reached with any First Nations.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) aims to develop positive relationships with nations, confederacies and councils that have established or asserted rights that may be impacted by TRCA projects and programs through a process of meaningful, mutually respectful engagement. The engagement and consultation process may be formal when responding to legislative requirements related to infrastructure projects which TRCA is advancing on behalf of partners, or more informal when building relationships with specific communities related to our programs.

The Supreme Court of Canada has determined that the provincial and federal government ("the Crown") and its agents owe a Duty to Consult Indigenous peoples when it contemplates conduct that may adversely affect existing or asserted Indigenous or treaty rights. While third parties including not for profits such as TRCA do not have this duty, the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of consultation to TRCA through legislation or other means (for example by requesting TRCA to undertake the Environmental Assessment (EA) process for projects funded all or partially by the Crown). A good example of this is TRCA's work on Indigenous engagement for Waterfront Toronto EA's. In addition, TRCA is responsible for managing the engagement process including Indigenous engagement for EA projects including projects under the Conservation Authority Parent Class EA process or the Municipal Parent Class EA process for which TRCA is the proponent.

In 2015, TRCA penned Engagement Guidelines, which outline the general principles of engagement, in what instances TRCA is required to engage, and the internal engagement process - primarily under a formal engagement (Duty to Consult) scenario. In 2017 TRCA developed our Community Engagement Strategy, which contains high level recommendations regarding the enhancement of relationships with communities. Both documents remain relevant, however, discussions involving First Nations, the TRCA Chair, CEO, and staff along with evolving best practices have prompted TRCA to undertake a refresh of the Engagement Guidelines.

In early 2021 staff set out to establish a dialogue with several First Nations to continue to build relationships and seek their input into TRCA's plans for guideline updates and general knowledge sharing. COVID-19 made these interactions challenging; however, several insightful virtual meetings were undertaken with Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation and Huron-Wendat Nation through 2021. These meetings continued into 2022 with the addition of meetings with Six Nations of the Grand River.

Parallel to these meetings, on-going discussions were undertaken with the City of Toronto which was finalizing their Reconciliation Plan and undertaking broad consultation with other municipalities to inform future Indigenous engagement policy updates. TRCA has also been following the work that other municipalities and agencies within our jurisdiction have been undertaking in the development of Indigenous engagement policies and protocols to inform future engagement guideline updates.

To compliment formal engagement efforts, TRCA has a long history of work with First Nations and Indigenous communities through the Education and Training division and their programming across sites.

### **RATIONALE**

The following is a high-level summary of activities and key considerations that will continue to guide TRCA's Indigenous engagement efforts in 2022.

## TRCA Indigenous (First Nations and Metis) Engagement Working Group

TRCA has a great interest from staff to discuss opportunities to incorporate Indigenous engagement in their project or program work. In May 2022 an internal working group was established with representation across all divisions to share knowledge and help facilitate corporate-wide adoption of consistent principles and best practices for engagement with Indigenous partners.

Terms of Reference for the group is being drafted with the following key considerations:

- Potential engagement opportunities will be brought to the working group for discussion and coordination (if applicable). This will also allow staff to bring issues or questions related to Indigenous engagement for programs or projects to receive feedback and support.
- Representatives will be asked to be leaders in their division, sharing information with their teams and bringing opportunities to the attention of the working group.
- The working group will be used as a first point of contact for potential training and information sharing with treaty First Nations and Indigenous communities (see relationship agreement discussion for further information).
- Drafting of updated policies and guidelines will originate in the working group, in collaboration with First Nations. All policies will also benefit from TRCA Policy

- Committee and or TRCA Board of Directors approval where this is required.
- The working group lead will be responsible for maintaining a project/program listing of all engagement being undertaken (outside of Duty to Consult).
- Duty to Consult projects being advanced by TRCA on behalf of senior governments that
  are subject to the Duty to Consult requirement will continue to be coordinated through
  the archaeology team with a regular reporting to the working group that includes a
  summary of the project and engagement underway, including key interests expressed
  from First Nations.
- Regular check-ins with the Credit Valley Conservation working group will be established on an annual basis to share learnings and experiences.
- The working group will report quarterly to Senior Leadership Team on undertakings and any key strategic items and will vet any proposed updates to corporate policies through Policy Committee.
- Work will occur with Corporate Services to provide, manage, and maintain a centralized corporate repository for Indigenous engagement resources and a repository of policies and guidelines.
- Ultimately this group is intended to inform and provide meaningful advice on engagement and reconciliation measures that can be considered by TRCA and to help identify actions to advance this goal recognizing the potential need for funding support from TRCA's partners.

The first formal meeting of the working group is scheduled for June 22, 2022. A member of the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation will join the meeting to provide Indigenous awareness training specific to TRCA's jurisdiction that will start the dialogue around an update to the Land Acknowledgment statement. This will include considerations around when the Land Acknowledgment is most appropriately used and how it is delivered to ensure this is done in a respectful and meaningful way.

### City of Toronto's Reconciliation Plan

In October 2021 TRCA staff met with City of Toronto staff in the Parks Forestry and Recreation Division and the Indigenous Affairs Office regarding their Reconciliation Plan. TRCA staff were made aware at that time that the draft Plan included recommendations for return of land and stewardship rights in ravines. TRCA was circulated the draft Plan in early 2022 and provided approval of a high-level recommendation/action that indicates we work together to develop and sustain partnerships and good relations to ensure support for Indigenous access and stewardships of lands. The Reconciliation Plan was approved at City Council on April 6, 2022. Action #19 details the City's considerations around "Return Land and Stewardship Rights". Although the Indigenous Affairs Office has indicated this action item is not in their 2022 workplan, TRCA will meet with the City in July to discuss how we can work together in the future. TRCA is already undertaking work to make greenspaces more accessible such as the Morningside Legacy Project (described in more detail below) and others across within the City of Toronto that matches with this specific policy direction of the Reconciliation Plan.

Excerpt from the City of Toronto's Reconciliation Plan:

## 19. Return Land and Stewardship Rights

The City acknowledges that Indigenous oppression and genocide is rooted in the impacts of land dispossession and displacement. The City also acknowledges that Indigenous Peoples are experts in local land stewardship and carry thousands of years of collective knowledge of how to

live in right relations with the land, water, and all its inhabitants. The City of Toronto will:

- a. Prioritize Indigenous worldviews and relational views of land protection and Indigenous community leadership to enhance climate resiliency.
- b. Develop a framework to guide the City's real estate acquisitions and disposal processes and policies that affect Indigenous communities, to:
  - i. Ensure all transactions are consistent with legislative requirements
  - ii. Consider the needs of diverse Indigenous communities residing in Toronto
  - iii. Identify and evaluate real estate opportunities to advance Indigenous stewardship, control, and ownership of land within the City of Toronto
- c. Engage Indigenous Nations, communities and community leaders in the co-development of protocols, practices, and agreements surrounding Indigenous use of and access to land and water within the City of Toronto;
- d. Make every effort to facilitate the transfer of stewardship, control, and/or ownership of lands and waters to Indigenous Nations, communities, collectives, and organizations and agencies.
  - i. Where the City can, support Indigenous People in accessing land in parks, throughways, schools, community centres, etc.
  - ii. Work with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority to develop and sustain partnerships and good relations to ensure support for Indigenous access and stewardships of lands.

# **Project/Program Oriented Updates**

Several engagement-oriented programs and initiatives are being undertaken across the organization. The following is a sample of key highlights.

# Moccasin Identifier Project

The Moccasin Identifier Project (https://moccasinidentifier.com/) is an educational tool to promote public awareness of significant cultural historic sites and the ancestral presence of Indigenous Communities. Its goal is to create a cultural shift in relationships with Indigenous communities and to create a network of knowledge of Indigenous history. The Project achieves this through education, partnerships, and installations. It has been developed by Elder and former Chief of the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Carolyn King, in partnership with the MCFN and the Greenbelt Foundation. The Moccasin Identifier Project creates an opportunity for TRCA to work with the MCFN to help share the history and culture of Indigenous communities through installations and promotion at TRCA sites, facilities, programs, and events.

Staff are currently working with the Moccasin Identifier team on an MOU which will outline roles and responsibilities, along with key work plan deliverables for 2022 – 2024. The Moccasin Identifier team has also indicated that they could support TRCA with their Indigenous engagement, and relationship-building efforts (i.e., developing a land acknowledgement, protocols for events, cultural competency training, etc.) as fee for service work.

With the construction of the Head Office at 5 Shoreham Drive scheduled for completion in Q1 2023, there is an immediate opportunity for a permanent Moccasin Identifier installation by the main entrance of the building. Inside of the building in the lobby there could be opportunities for programmable space around theme of Indigenous voices programmed by the Education team in collaboration with Indigenous communities. The indoor display would work as an educational complement to the more typical outdoor installation. Staff are meeting with the Moccasin Identifier team to understand design guidelines and explore options for both indoor and outdoor installations. The installation of the program at the new Head Office would expose a wide variety

of TRCA clients and stakeholders to the program and would be a unique relationship-building opportunity for TRCA.

Staff are in the process of scoping out a preliminary budget for a head office installation. A preliminary budget will include staffing and consultant costs related to producing a full proposal with timelines and implementation costs, in addition to any budget required to support the Moccasin Identifier team to work with TRCA and consultants on the design of installations for Head Office. Staff will also work with the Moccasin Identifier team to scope out an RFP to retain an Indigenous consultant for the development of a conceptual plan which will identify potential locations for installations, site considerations, programming opportunities and budgets.

## Morningside Legacy Project

The Morningside Legacy Project seeks to restore Indigenous acknowledgement and presence at Morningside Park through the creation of an outdoor gathering space that can be used for shared learning experiences and celebration.

The project has involved the Williams Treaty First Nations to help inform the planning and design process. The vision for the final design of the Morningside Legacy Project is taking on the form of an educational trail. The trail has five main components interpreting First Nation history, cultural significance, and connection to ecologically sound and sustainable approaches to land management.

Engagement has been facilitated by a consultant who is a member of the Williams Treaty First Nations. This model and early involvement and contribution through the full lifecycle has been very positively received. The Morningside Legacy Project will be a framework that can be applied to future projects. A potential 2023 project will be scoped to replicate this model and a scan of available grants undertaken.

### OCAD-McMichael Art Gallery Mural Project

Bonnie Devine, an Indigenous artist from Serpent River First Nation and instructor at OCAD University, collaborated with TRCA, the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and the Huron Wendat Nation to create a mural celebrating the Carrying Place Trail and the Humber River. In 2021 the Huron Wendat Nation gave the artist permission to use artifacts from the Seed-Barker site in the mural project. TRCA archaeologists invited the artist to view artifacts from the Seed-Barker site, from which she selected seven to include in the mural project. The mural project was launched at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in November. https://mcmichael.com/event/from-water-to-water/

## **Education and Training**

Since 2018, TRCA's Education and Training Division has worked with Dr. Hopi Lovell Martin, Waabizheshii Oskaabewis (Ojibwe Maren Clan Ceremonial Helper, Messenger, and Fire Keeper) to host various Indigenous Traditional Teachings through webinars and in-person learning and professional training opportunities engaging staff, educators, early years staff, students, and the general public. Other programs and initiatives have grown from this work, with several partnerships underway or in progress

## York Region Nature Collaborative (YRNC)

TRCA partnered with YRNC, Dr. Hopi Lovell Martin and Indigenous Elder Gokoomis (Grandmother) Jacque Lavallee from Shawanaga First Nation in hosting three of 13 land-based webinars on Traditional Ojibwe-Anishinaabe calendar moon teachings (January Big Spirt Moon, February Bear Moon and March Sugar Moon). These webinars described specific relationships

between Doodoom Aki (Mother Earth), her People and the teachings of the Four Seasons. https://edgeofthebush.ca/walking-with-grandmother-moon-2/

# Walking Together Through the 4 Seasons

TRCA partnered with York Region Nature Collaborative, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Dr. Hopi Lovell Martin and Dr. Diane Kashin to develop and deliver 17 months of intensive training for 90 York Region Early ON staff through an initiative titled "Walking Together Through the 4 Seasons". This professional development training commenced February 2022 and is intended to build capacity and create a cultural shift for EarlyON professionals by increasing their confidence, efficacy, knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes of connecting with the land through traditional Anishinaabe Seasonal Pedagogy and learning forest school practices. Participating staff learn this approach to teaching and learning through webinars, in-person learning, sacred ceremony, resources, mentoring and an online community of practice. The in-person events are happening at Kortright Centre, Lake St. George and Scanlon Creek locations.

# Land Acknowledgements

TRCA Education and Training staff took part in a facilitated session on establishing and maintaining respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and the relationship between "Land Acknowledgement" and Traditional Ojibwe Protocols.

## Wiigiwaam Builds at TRCA Sites

A Wiigiwaam is a Ceremonial shelter, home or teaching lodge that is built with Traditional Ojibwe Teachings of the Four Directions, Four Seasons, Four Races of Humanity and the Four Sacred Medicines connected to the Four Sacred Colours of Yellow, Red, Black and White. The building process of these structures includes traditional knowledge, ceremony, protocol, and teachings. Since 2019, four Wiigiwaams have been constructed at four different TRCA sites, Lake St. George, Kortright Centre, Claireville and Black Creek Pioneer Village. These structures can be used as a place for traditional ceremonies or to connect people with the land. In April 2022, led by Dr. Hopi Lovell Martin, a group of Indigenous Youth participated in sacred ceremony in the newly build Wiigiwaam and worked on the land to care for some of the Sugar Maple Forest on the site.

## Peel Community Learning (PCL)

TRCA's PCL and Government and Community relation teams are working with Eagle Spirits of the Great Waters in Mississauga to install a Medicine Wheel Garden at the Arsenal Lands and collaborating on program opportunities on the site. TRCA also continues to work with Four Colours Drumming Circle to support Girls Can Too and Conservation Youth Corps participants in Medicine Wheel Garden teachings and maintenance, smudging and drumming circles.

### Gathering of Nations Summer Camp

The Albion Hills Field Centre is hosting the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Gathering of Nations Summer Camp for 20 Indigenous students at Albion Hills Field Centre from July 2 – 23, 2022. TRCA is working with the Indigenous Education Department at TCDCB to plan and support the camp with meals and programming. TCDSB will lead curriculum linked programming for the completion of a grade 9 credit course (NAC 10) – Expressions of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Cultures in Canada and First Nation, Metis and participate in Inuit traditional workshops each afternoon, while TRCA education staff will provide nature-based learning through the Albion Hills Conservation Park.

Newcomer Youth Green Economy Project

The Newcomer Youth Green Economy Project partners with Alderville First Nation and Woodland Cultural Centre to provide field trips that engage newcomer youth participants in Indigenous learning opportunities. These include a tour of the Alderville Black Oak Savanna and the former Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School. A virtual tour is planned for Woodland Cultural Centre and a in person visit for Alderville.

National Indigenous People's Day – Summer Solstice Event at Kortright Centre
June 20, 2021 on National Indigenous People's Day TRCA celebrated and renewed
relationships with the land, and to each other by hosting a free virtual event at Kortright Centre
for Conservation. This event was live broadcast to children, families, students, Indigenous and
non-Indigenous people and included a traditional Indigenous ceremony, drumming, and
dancing. This event had over 45,000 viewers from across the country and TRCA intends to
continue the recognition of National Indigenous People's Day in 2022 at Black Creek Pioneer
Village focusing on student education. To this end, as part of the day, TRCA will be working with
Edge of the Bush, Moccasin Identifier Project, and the Changing the Narrative research
committee to welcome students to learn, reflect and "walk together" into the future.

## Initiatives Planned/In Progress at Kortright Centre

The following items are currently being planned for future delivery:

- TRCA is working with York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) and Indigenous
  consultants in developing and delivering an Indigenous education program for 11
  classes of grades 6 and 7's to connect students with the land, learn about ceremony and
  experience Indigenous traditional approaches to teaching and learning.
- Staff are in the early stages of developing a partnership with YRDSB to support the
  creation of a Healing Forest on or near the Kortright Centre, dedicating TRCA land to
  honour and reflect on reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous
  people. This site could serve as a future YRDSB learning hub where staff professional
  development opportunities and student engagement in Indigenous studies could take
  place.
- In collaboration with Indigenous groups, TRCA staff are exploring the development of an authentic educational program led by Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers and Ceremonialists to engage students in traditional teachings, ceremony, culture and learning to connect students with the land and build intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.

# **Black Creek Pioneer Village**

Established in 1960 through a partnership between TRCA, Metropolitan Toronto, local municipalities and the Government of Ontario, Black Creek Pioneer Village is one of Ontario's leading living history museums, boasting over forty (40) heritage buildings of local, provincial, and national significance, and caring for 50,000 artifacts of material culture.

Additionally, TRCA through its *Archaeological Heritage Strategy*, conducts archaeological assessments across the Greater Toronto Area to identify, document and preserve cultural resources on TRCA, private and municipal lands and has a legislated and ethical responsibility to care for the collection. Since 1988, TRCA's archaeological collection has grown to approximately one million artifacts, excluding collections currently housed and stored at the ROM. This collection and history in building partnerships with Indigenous communities has led to a broad suite and range of activities across TRCA that support Indigenous-led peacekeeping and storytelling on and within TRCA's lands and spaces and represents a unique opportunity to

connect the archaeological history and collection of TRCA with the cultural heritage collection and programming of Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Black Creek Pioneer Village and TRCA, with its extensive heritage and cultural assets and infrastructure, along with a strong history of innovative programming, has an established reputation and name brand awareness. With that said, public perception of heritage villages such as Black Creek Pioneer Village has continued to evolve whereby public programming expectations tend to focus on a broader interest in experiences that provide a more fun and engaging experience within a heritage context, more so than traditional interpretive heritage museum experiences or tours. Furthermore, the connotation of a "pioneer village" presents barriers to inclusion and participation for indigenous communities and new Canadians by focusing on a specific period in Canadian and local history that did not and does not reflect the rich cultural heritage of local communities.

To address the above, TRCA has begun to develop an ambitious re-envisioning of Black Creek Pioneer Village that will support the transformation of this key cultural attraction into an inclusive community common whereby the village is the context to tell the myriad of stories of pre-colonial to current times. Modernization of Black Creek Pioneer Village represents an opportunity to transform the museum and heritage village into a community-commons, with an emphasis on reconciliation and Indigenous-led placemaking and storytelling, and engagement of the multicultural communities of the City of Toronto. This modernization of the Village will contribute to the City of Toronto's Reconciliation Action Plan, and further serve as a potential anchor and catalyst for the establishment of a Cultural District within the Black Creek neighbourhood.

To kick-start efforts related to Indigenous engagement at Black Creek Pioneer Village, in 2021 TRCA worked successfully to integrate a temporary large-scale art project by Metis encaustic sculptor, Tracey-Mae Chambers, into the "pioneer village" setting. Chambers wove red string through the 19th century schoolhouse located at Black Creek Pioneer Village making a powerful statement on the legacy of residential schools and global unrest while asking visitors to consider how our society can remain hopeful. Chambers is returning with a new installation in 2022 to create a temporary large-scale art project inside the home of a settler family located at BCPV. This installation builds on work underway since 2018 at Black Creek Pioneer Village to create a permanent Indigenous History Gallery through a partnership with York University (including Anishinaabe scholar and historian Dr. Alan Corbiere) and Jumblies Theatre (a project led by Haudenosaunee artist, Ange Loft) and guided by local First Nations representatives. The partnership will result in a permanent exhibit at BCPV, original historical scholarship, and a weaving of Indigenous perspectives, content, and voices through existing interpretation of the Toronto Region in the 19th century. Participating First Nations include: Mississauga's of the Credit, Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississauga's of Scugog Island, and Chippewas of Rama.

Recognizing the important role that Black Creek Pioneer Village plays in telling the story of the Toronto region from pre-colonial to the current period, TRCA has begun advocating for enhanced government funding to modernize and transform Black Creek Pioneer Village into an inclusive community common with an emphasis on Indigenous perspectives. With a renewed vision for Black Creek Pioneer Village that is forward-focused, ambitious, and inclusive, the Village can be a catalyst for inclusive conversations on the history of the Toronto region, while also spurring revitalization in the surrounding neighbourhoods. At the request of Toronto Council, the City Manager with input from TRCA will be reporting back on the above matters to inform future City of Toronto and TRCA budget considerations later this year.

# **Updates on Engagement with First Nations**

TRCA had regular meetings with Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation and Huron-Wendat Nation. These meetings have continued in 2022 with the addition of meetings with Six Nations of the Grand River. One of the main functions of regular meetings is to proactively bring forward planned archaeological studies and Duty to Consult projects for discussion to allow for a more collaborative dialogue between all parties.

During these meetings, TRCA expressed interest in engaging First Nations in the update of engagement guidelines and land acknowledgement. Through these discussions the concept of entering into a relationship agreement to undertake this work and other priorities was reoccurring. Staff are currently exploring what agreements of this nature might look like based on examples that have been shared with us. Each First Nation has unique interests when it comes to the initiatives they would like to work more collaboratively with TRCA on.

The following are highlights of some of the items discussed to date:

- There was openness to assisting with the update of TRCA's land acknowledgement, incorporating the transfer of knowledge to staff on the history of our jurisdiction and recommendations on when land acknowledgments should be used and how they should be delivered.
- Interest in training and knowledge sharing that benefit both parties was expressed in a
  variety of discussions. There is an interest in TRCA sharing their knowledge and
  providing courses like the Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol training to First Nations
  and in turn offers to undertake customized Indigenous Awareness training for staff and
  providing traditional knowledge input into initiatives like watershed planning and
  Environmental Assessment evaluation criteria were discussed.
- Archeological studies undertaken by TRCA continue to be a main interest of First
  Nations with the desire to have more formalized agreements for review fees and direct
  participation in field work.
- There is an interest in partnerships and collaboration through TRCA's Boyd Archeology Field School from the Huron-Wendat Nation. The field school has often been run on an ancestral Huron Wendat site: the Seed-Barker site in Vaughan and the current location at the Sebastien site in Pickering (named in honour and in memory of Huron Wendat Elder Heather Sebastian). The Huron Wendat Nation has embarked on Yandata, a strategic partnership with Archeological Services Inc. (ASI) at the Skandatut site in Vaughan which borders TRCA managed and owned lands. The partnership is designed to ensure the Huron-Wendat Nation's leadership in carrying out archaeological work for projects that may have an impact on its physical, cultural, and ancestral heritage in Ontario. TRCA is looking to this innovative work as a potential future model for our own work with the Nation. TRCA's CEO met with the Huron Wendat Nation Grand Chief and delegates on May 18, 2022 to discuss potential partnerships including enhanced cooperation and Huron Wendat involvement with the Boyd Archaeology Field School along with opportunities for greater interpretation and education of Huron Wendat history at TRCA sites across the jurisdiction.

Staff will continue to explore opportunities for relationship agreements in 2022; starting with strategic common interests, with the ability to adapt and evolve.

# **Naming Strategy**

Research to advance a Naming Strategy has not been undertaken to date as resources and inhouse expertise is limited. TRCA is exploring the possibility of obtaining consultant services in

2022 to help navigate this and ensure that there is an expansion of the scope of work to consider all aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion in naming and renaming opportunities. Key next steps include:

- Review of municipal efforts for similar strategies (this has been on-going);
- Review of all TRCA named sites to scan for appropriateness;
- Identification of TRCA's properties of interest to First Nation communities, through consultation;
- Creating a framework for naming and renaming processes; and
- Creation and adoption of a naming policy.

## Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 6 – Tell the story of the Toronto region

Strategy 7 - Build partnerships and new business models

### FINANCIAL DETAILS

Programming and projects costs for the noted activities have been funded through a variety of divisional budgets. Cost for potential relationship agreements with treaty communities are currently unknown and will vary depending on priorities for partnership. It is expected that TRCA would need to explore opportunities for contributions from programs and projects to advance these agreements, at least in the short term. Costing for engagement activities will be raised as a budget consideration related to fee for service projects, where, for example, Duty to Consult requirements are present. Opportunities to partner with First Nations on grants to support joint projects and programs will be explored.

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

2022 Priorities

- Finalize a Terms of Reference for the TRCA Indigenous Engagement working group and initiate meetings.
- Work with First Nations to update TRCA's land acknowledgement and provide a meaningful learning experience for staff as part of this process.
- Draft updates to TRCA Engagement Guidelines with consultation from First Nations and input from the Indigenous Engagement Working Group and Policy Committee.
- Continue to work with the City of Toronto as they roll out the actions of their Reconciliation Plan.
- Works towards advancing and finalizing relationship frameworks or agreements with First Nations in 2022.
- Explore the possibility of retaining consulting assistance to advance a Naming Strategy that may include cooperating with partner municipalities undertaking similar work.

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