



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Community & Recreation Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Beth Gignac, Director Community & Recreation Services

**Date to Council:** April 9, 2024

**Report Number:** CRS-2024-11

**Subject:** Indigenous Education Consulting Agreement

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** CRS-2024-11 Indigenous Education Consulting Agreement **be received;**

**And that** By-Law 2024-033 regarding the consulting agreement for Indigenous Education consulting **be considered** for first, second, third and final readings.

### Background

In 2022, the Town engaged the services of the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society, direct descendants of Chief Tecumseh, to inform the activities commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Town of Tecumseh.

Also in 2022, Council approved [CRS-2022-17](#) Parks Five (5) Year Capital Works Plan to commission a commemorative sculpture of Chief Tecumseh for Lakewood Park North. The Town worked again with the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society to ensure accuracy for that project.

At the Special Council Meeting on January 16, 2024, Council received the presentation '2024 Proposed Business Plan and Budget' which included the Community and Recreation Services Department Operating Budget as part of the deliberations. The budget was passed by Motion: [RCM-15/24](#) Bylaw 2024-003.

Within the CRS Operating Budget, an item was identified as follows:

Cultural Other: Increase of \$60,000 to support the pilot program for Indigenous Relations and Education, fully off-set by “Transfer from Reserve” on a one-time basis for 2024 and built into base budget for 2025 pending outcome of the program.

## Comments

Administration has been working with the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society, specifically Patricia Shawnoo, a direct descendant of Chief Tecumseh, and Dr. Jerry Fontaine, Director and Board Member of the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society, to develop an Indigenous Education program for Members of Council, Town staff and the community.

The resulting program is entitled “di-bayn-di-zi-win: An Ojibway-Anishinabe Pedagogy.”

This one-year Indigenous Education Consulting Agreement between the Town and the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society will provide education through events and training to teach Ojibway-Anishinabe i-zhi-gay-win-zhigo-dah-so-win (ways of doing and knowing) such as: distinct worldview, values, ceremonial practices, language and history of both the First Peoples and the natural environment in our community.

As described in Schedule A of the attached Consulting Agreement, the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society will undertake a research project on the Indigenous history of the region and provide three workshops for Council and Administration regarding worldview, belief system and ceremonial practices and protocols.

The Tecumtha Ogitchada Society will also participate in six community events/days of significance:

May 5            Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Day of Mourning

June 21        National Indigenous People’s Day

July 1           Canada Day

Sept 30        Orange Shirt Day

October 5      Tecumseh Memorial Day

November 8   Indigenous Veterans Day

The engagement of the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society is supported by Caldwell First Nation and the Can-Am Indian Friendship Centre, both of whom will also be invited to participate in the program by the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society.

## Consultations

Chief Administrative Officer  
Tecumtha Ogitchada Society  
Caldwell First Nation  
Can-Am Indian Friendship Centre

## Financial Implications

The amount of the Indigenous Education Consulting Agreement with the Tecumtha Ogitchada Society will be \$50,000. The funding source is CRS Cultural Other \$60,000. The remaining balance of \$10,000 within Cultural Other will be used to support the purchase of ceremonial items to comply with Indigenous protocol (such as blankets and/or tobacco) and/or to support the purchase of any other materials or supplies required to deliver the overall program.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

## Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐ Social Media ☐ News Release ☐ Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Beth Gignac, BA Hons  
Director Community & Recreation Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None