5 STEP GUIDE

TO BUILDING A MUNICIPAL COMMUNICATION PLAN INCORPORATING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES









STEP 1: ENDORSE

- Get buy in from ALL municipal staff
- Public endorsement from Mayor and CAO
- Present the current environmental landscape
- More to lose when you don't get Indigenous involvement
- Issues & risk mitigation









STEP 2: ENGAGE



- Create genuine connections with Indigenous leaders, staff, elected
 Chief and Council, Hereditary Chiefs, elders
- Find your FN ambassador who can give you an honest run down of protocols, situational analysis and challenges
- Be truthful in your knowledge of Indigenous history and culture
- Don't give up Indigenous human resources are limited
- Be very welcoming, smile & remember humour goes a long way

STEP 3: EVALUATE



- Evaluate opportunities with a "Discovery Session" and baseline "SWOT Analysis"
- Take your findings and create action items to each with achievable markers

STEP 4: ENABLE

ALLIES
IN ACTION

- How can your municipality involve First Nations?
 - A seat at the table
 - Council meeting minutes
 - Colloboration on events
 - Speaking engagements
 - Mayor acknowledge land and territory
 - Joint Economic Development ventures
 - Joint tourism initiatives
 - Joint funding applications

STEP 5: EDUCATE



- Learn whether your Indigenous community is set up as a democratic government structure with elected Chief and Council, Hereditary Chief structure, Treaty structure, combination of both operating in isolation or a modern hybrid
- What you learn from the above point will help you determine who to engage and what onboarding is required.
- Remember both sides need education on decision making processes and some First Nations are rebuilding their nations and working on it and has yet to be determined. Patience is key.
- Educate yourself on protocols (eye contact, business casual).
- Invite each other to meetings, celebrations and economic development initiatives
- It's also the municipalities' job to create harmony, keep the peace and educate non-indigenous residents and staff on protocol, cultural practices and Indigenous laws.

SAMPLE COLLOBORATION

- Economic Development Cultural Tours
- Railway
- Attraction of industry job creation for both communities and capacity building
- Service agreement for fire and library services
- Inland Port Agreements
- Retail and Shopping Centre Agreements (North Shore/Twasswan)
- Airport Industrial Development

RESOURCES

- https://fcm.ca/en/resources/cedi/first-nation-municipal-fundingresources
- https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1317842518699/1535120096924
- http://www.edo.ca/downloads/cedi-toolkit-glance.pdf
- https://www.amo.on.ca/AMO-Content/Indigenous-Relations/IndigenousRelations
- https://www.canada.ca/en/canadianheritage/services/funding.html
- https://www.gov.mb.ca/inr/major-initiatives/aboriginal-economicdevelopment.html
- workforceforward.ca
- forwardsummit.ca

NEED SUPPORT ON YOUR ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY?

Ruby Gill Linda Bilben

(778) 888-0514 (604) 505-3171

ALBERTA | BRITISH COLUMBIA

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