

Township of Southgate
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Staff Report CL2021-028

Title of Report: CL2021-028 – Amendments to Policy No. 51 –
Displaying Flags Policy
Department: Clerks
Branch: Legislative and Council Services
Council Date: October 6, 2021

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Council receive Staff Report CL2021-028 for information; and
That Council consider approval of By-law 2021-146 to adopt the Displaying Flags Policy Number 51.

Background:

At the July 3, 2019, regular meeting, Council approved an updated Policy No. 51 – Displaying Flags Policy. [Staff Report CL2019-023](#) can be reviewed for further background information.

At the September 15, 2021, regular meeting, Council approved the following motion:

Motion as Amended:

No. 2021-521

Moved By Councillor Dobreen

Seconded By Councillor Rice

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report on June 2, 2015, which included 94 Calls to Action to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation; and

Whereas the recent discoveries of remains and unmarked graves across Canada have led to increased calls for all levels of government to address the recommendations in the TRC's Calls to Action; and

Whereas all Canadians and all orders of government have a role to play in reconciliation; and

Whereas Recommendation #80 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission called upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process; and

Whereas the Federal Government has announced September 30th, 2021, as the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (National Orange Shirt Day) and a statutory holiday,

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Southgate does hereby commit to recognizing September 30th, 2021, as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (National Orange Shirt Day) by sharing the stories of residential school survivors, their families, and communities; and

That Council approve the lowering of the flags throughout the Township on September 30, 2021 in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; and That Council direct staff to return to a future Council meeting with amendments to the current Displaying Flag Policy No. 51 to include the lowering of the flags for this day in future years. **Carried**

Staff Comments:

Staff have drafted the necessary amendments to the Displaying Flags Policy No. 51 and are presenting it for approval by municipal by-law. The amended policy is included as Schedule A to By-law 2021-146, including in the agenda following this report.

Amendments were minimal, with the sole addition of September 30th of any year to have the flags lowered at municipal property as indicated in the policy, in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

This report has been written and presented to Council to communicate accurate information to the public.

Concluding Comments:

That Council receive Staff Report CL2021-028 for information and that Council consider approval of By-law 2021-146 to adopt the Displaying Flags Policy Number 51.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dept. Head: *Original Signed By*
Lindsey Green, Clerk

CAO Approval: *Original Signed By*
Dave Milliner, CAO

Attachments: None