Motion M-20-05: Ottawa Police Services Board and Ottawa Police Service Commitment to Reconciliation

Moved by: Diane Deans Seconded by: Bev Johnson

WHEREAS in June of 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its findings and 94 Calls to Action to advance the reconciliation process in Canada; and

WHEREAS the calls to action were directed at all levels of Government, the private sector, and all Canadians; and

WHEREAS in June of 2019, the final report from the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls National Inquiry was released and built on the findings of the TRC; and

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Services Board (OPSB) and Ottawa Police Service (OPS) have a responsibility to build strong relationships with our community and integrate best practices into our everyday work;

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Services Board (OPSB) and Ottawa Police Service (OPS) recognize that there is a need for reconciliation with the OPS and between the OPS and the broader community;

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Service (OPS), through the EDI Action Plan has done a considerable amount of work and continues to acknowledge and address racism in its many forms including anti-indigenous racism (AIR). The Ottawa Police Service, a member of the City of Ottawa Aboriginal Working Committee (AWC), has ongoing commitments to the City Reconciliation Action Plan that contains 14 actions that speak directly to the TRC Calls to Action.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the OPSB and OPS commit themselves to continuing to support and advance reconciliation both internally and externally; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Policy and Governance Committee commit to engaging with the Ottawa Aboriginal Coalition and other potential indigenous groups or individuals and work to identify calls of action within the TRC that apply to both OPSB and OPS and report back to the Board with an action plan that will implement these findings.