

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUBJECT: TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION CHRISTMAS HAMPER AND TOY DRIVE

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a grant contribution of \$500 be approved for distribution to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive, as outlined in the report titled “Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive” of the Open Executive Committee of Council meeting, dated December 4 2024; and

THAT similar contributions for future fiscal years be included in the City’s annual budget process for Indigenous Relations.

REPORT

The Executive Committee of Council, at its meeting held on December 4, 2024, received and adopted the attached report seeking Council approval to provide a grant of \$500 to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of
Council,

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (ECC)
FROM: DIRECTOR INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION
SUBJECT: **TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION CHRISTMAS HAMPER AND TOY DRIVE**
PURPOSE: To seek Committee and Council approval to provide a grant for \$500 to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive

RECOMMENDATION

THAT a grant contribution of \$500 be approved for distribution to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive as outlined in the report titled, “Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive” dated December 4 2024; and

THAT similar contributions for future fiscal years be included in the City’s annual budget process for Indigenous Relations.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

A City of Burnaby (City) financial contribution to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive event is supported by City plans and policies that work towards building and maintaining relationships and advancing reconciliation with host Nations and Indigenous Peoples, including:

- Equity Policy (1994, Updated 2020)
 - For example: *The City has a duty to its citizens to set a positive example and foster a climate of understanding and mutual respect.*
- Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Strategy Framework (2024)
 - For example: *To come to terms with events of the past and to proactively develop respectful and mutually beneficial relationships based on truth, justice, and reconciliation between Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Peoples that will support a prosperous and just future for all.*

This work is also in alignment with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action (TRC), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA).

2.0 BACKGROUND

Parts of present-day Burnaby are located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation. For many years the City has worked closely with the Tsleil-

Waututh Nation to build and maintain a positive government-to-government relationship and to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Peoples in the community. Representatives from City Council and the City’s leadership team are often invited by Tsleil-Waututh into their community and have had opportunities to engage directly with both leadership and community members, including Elders and youth from the Tsleil-Waututh Nation who will benefit from this contribution. The City made a \$500 contribution to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive for the first time in 2023.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is launching its 2024 Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive to support its members during the holiday season. Their campaign is inspired by one of their most important cultural values: ʔə ỳ sqʷeləwən (pronounced “aytz-squal-owen”).

“ʔə ỳ sqʷeləwən translates as “good feelings” in our language. When we use this word, we are recognizing that each of us has gifts to share, and that we are committed to caring for one another and treating our people with the dignity and respect they deserve as human beings.”

In the spirit of ʔə ỳ sqʷeləwən, The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is asking its valued friends and partners to support their campaign to bring the joy of the holiday season to Tsleil-Waututh families. They are in particular need of monetary contributions, so that they can purchase an array of food items for Christmas hampers to ensure every household on their reserve can gather together, spend time with family, and enjoy a celebratory meal.

To continue the ongoing relationship with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, the City could make a grant contribution to this event.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

That the Committee recommend Council approve the grant contribution of \$500 to the Tsleil-Waututh Nation’s Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive. The contribution will be drawn from the ECC grants budget that has been provisioned through the 2024 Annual Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Mikelle Sasakamoose, Director Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Letter from Tsleil-Waututh Nation Re: Fundraising Appeal for Christmas Hamper and Toy Drive