

# UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration Rights of Indigenous Peoples) Strategy Engagement - Urban Indigenous Peoples

## Plain Language Summary - November 2023 and February 2024

The UNDRIP Strategy is a document that outlines the plan for the City of Vancouver to uphold the rights of Indigenous Peoples in alignment with UNDRIP. It focuses on the rights of Indigenous peoples and recognizing their importance in the City of Vancouver, which sits on the traditional territories of the [xʷməθkʷəy̓əm \(Musqueam\)](#), the [Skwxwú7mesh \(Squamish Nation\)](#), and the [səlilwətał \(Tsleil-Waututh Nation\)](#).

### What happened so far

The City of Vancouver has been engaging with the Indigenous peoples who live and work in the city to learn more about their needs and perspectives. This engagement, which started in November 2023 and continued into February 2024, involved Urban Indigenous peoples in the development of the UNDRIP Strategy. Engagement work included:

- 5 engagement events (2 online and 3 in person)
- over 150 community members
- an Urban Indigenous Facilitator

### The process

Event participants had the chance to share their thoughts on the strategy and how they want to be represented and engaged with by the city. These events were led by Indigenous facilitators, including knowledge holders from different Indigenous nations. The work was supported by various City of Vancouver staff members and Indigenous community members.

During the engagements, participants were asked to provide feedback on the UNDRIP Strategy and discuss how they want to be represented at City Hall and engaged by the City of Vancouver. They identified priorities such as social, cultural, and economic well-being, ending Indigenous-specific racism and discrimination, self-determination and self-government, and rights and title of Indigenous peoples.

### What we learned

Feedback from participants highlighted the need for longer and more accessible engagement sessions, clearer communication about the UNDRIP Strategy, and efforts to build trust between the Indigenous community and the City of Vancouver. Participants also suggested ongoing communication through newsletters and the city's website, as well as opportunities for Indigenous-led engagement opportunities.

### What happens next

The City of Vancouver plans to:

- Report back to the Host Nations and Urban Indigenous community members
- Share the engagement findings with all City of Vancouver departments
- Continue engaging with Urban Indigenous community members
- Develop an Indigenous Engagement Framework based on the feedback received