



Hamilton

A large group of diverse youth, including children and teenagers of various ethnicities, are posed for a group photo. They are standing in front of a brick wall. Behind them is a large banner that reads "LEAVE NO DOUBT" and "PROTESTING SP...". Some of the youth are wearing t-shirts with logos, including one that says "AMER-EN NYC" and another with a circular logo for "TAC 2017 - JAAI 2017 - TORONTO - ONTARIO". The overall image has a teal overlay.

URBAN INDIGENOUS STRATEGY

update

A JOURNEY

In December 2016, The City of Hamilton began work on developing an Urban Indigenous Strategy that will identify actions and strengthen the City's relationship with the Indigenous community.

The Urban Indigenous Strategy is being developed in collaboration with Indigenous community partners and guided by principles that honour traditional knowledge, teachings and reciprocity.



PHASE ONE ACTIVITIES



RESEARCH

Understanding the local focus on TRC Calls to Action. Also looked at practices in other municipalities.



RAISING AWARENESS

Online and in-person communications.

Many presentations and staff engagement.



RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

Outreach and relationship building through participation and partnership on community events.

LEARNING IN PHASE ONE



**"Need to break down
barrier of mistrust
between the City and the
Indigenous community"**

Comment from Community
Conversation Event, Dec. 13, 2017

Coordinating Circle hosted a Community Conversation on Reconciliation with Indigenous Community members on December 13, 2017.

A Use of Indigenous Medicines Policy has been developed to enable the burning of Indigenous medicines in City facilities.

**“TO BUILD A STRONGER
RELATIONSHIP
(REQUIRES) HONOURING VISIBILITY
AND BUILDING TRUST WITH THE
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY”**

Comment from Community Conversation on
Reconciliation
December 13, 2017



PHASES TWO AND THREE

current status and plans for
final strategy

PHASE TWO (JAN - AUG 2018)



"Education and reconciliation must happen"

Comment from Community
Conversation Event, Dec. 13, 2017

Will focus on community engagement to explore the emerging themes of Land, People and Spirit, and gather feedback on how the City can take action in relation to these themes. Community events and a survey will be the main methods for reaching out to residents.

Senior leadership and staff will continue to work on how to address the themes, Calls to Action and the feedback from the engagement events.



THE BLANKET EXERCISE

Phase Two community engagement began with holding a Community Conversation on Reconciliation on March 19, 2018.

The event brought together 100 people to take part in the KAIROS Blanket Exercise. The Exercise helps participants to build awareness and understanding of the history between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people on Turtle Island.



LAND

THIS THEME IS ABOUT

acknowledging and respecting the spiritual, mental, physical and emotional connections that Indigenous peoples have to land.

PEOPLE

THIS THEME EXPLORES

how Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples build mutually respectful relationships in every day settings.

SPIRIT

THIS THEME EMBODIES

how Indigenous contributions and experiences are honoured and commemorated in the City.

PHASE THREE (SEP TO DEC 2018)



"The Indigenous community [is] becoming more visible, showing their contributions and pride"

Comment from Community
Conversation Event, Dec. 13, 2017

Will wrap up the development and prepare a final strategy for approval.

This includes using the analysis from Phase Two and reporting back to the community.

An aerial photograph of a community gathering, likely a potluck or social event. Numerous people are seated on the floor, surrounded by various patterned blankets and rugs. Some individuals are standing and talking. The scene is set in a large, open indoor space with folding chairs visible in the background. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal color.

NYA: WEH

[HAMILTON.CA/INDIGENOUS](https://hAMILTON.CA/INDIGENOUS)