



## **MIRAMICHI CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP POLICY**

Miramichi City Council unanimously adopted the Peace and Friendship Policy at its Regular Council meeting on December 19 which formalizes the City's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation with the three Indigenous communities of Esgenoopetitj, Natoaganeg, and Metepenagiag First Nations.

The policy is the result of the ongoing collaboration between the City of Miramichi and Natoaganeg First Nation's Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) which began in March 2022.

"This is an exciting policy that has been developed over a year by the city and members of staff and council of Natoaganeg First Nation," said Mayor Adam Lordon.

The policy will provide City Council, staff and stakeholders with mutually agreed upon protocols and activities that support reconciliation as outlined in the Peace and Friendship Accord signed by the communities in 2019. The Accord recognized and accepted that the communities shared a territory and common interest, living on traditional Mi'kmaq territory.

"This is a very progressive policy and we don't know how many others there are like it across the country so in some way we feel we are leading the nation in terms of municipal-First Nation partnerships and reconciliation," said Lordon. "We're hopeful this can become a model that other communities can pursue as well."

The policy will focus on four guiding principles of relationships, celebrations, agreements, and renewal to strengthen the connection between all the communities.

As well, the City will support the journey of Reconciliation by applying the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action that apply to municipalities. There will also be commitments of land acknowledgements, treaties, inclusion of the Mi'kmaq language and flag, inclusive partnerships, cultural awareness and workforce and procurement opportunities.

"We are looking forward to continuing on with the other good work in the initiative but this is certainly a big piece of work that's come from that working group," Lordon added.

**Please read the full policy here: [Peace and Friendship Policy](#)**