

## AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL RFD# 2019004 Date: January 28, 2019

SUBJECT:	Territorial Acknowledgement / Amend Proceedings of Council Policy
DATE:	January 28, 2019
SUBMITTED BY:	Kimberlee Jones, Municipal Clerk
ТО:	Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

**ORIGIN:** Staff direction from the April 2018 Council meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**: Policy #10350-24 Proceedings of Council.

**<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>**: That Council approve an amendment to the Proceedings of Council Policy to add the following statement to our Council meeting agenda, which would be read aloud by the Chair immediately following the Call to Order:

"We[I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw Peoples."

**BACKGROUND**: This is an important protocol that we see being adopted and practiced by many municipalities across the country. In acknowledging treaty and traditional territory, municipalities are responding to TRC recommendation '*45iii: Renew or establish Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future*'

**<u>DISCUSSION</u>**: I would propose that we add the following statement to our Council meeting agenda, and it would be read aloud by the Chair immediately following the Call to Order.

The Statement will read:

"We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw Peoples.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: There are no financial implications.

**<u>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</u>**: There has been no community engagement.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**: There are no environmental implications.



**<u>SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS:</u>** Supports inclusion and recognition of our history and heritage and the indigenous peoples from our area.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1- Approve the policy with the territorial acknowledgement as presented
- 2- Approve the policy amendment with alternative language
- 3- Do not amend the policy

ATTACHMENTS: Proceedings of Council Policy

Report prepared by: Kimberlee Jones Report and Financial approved by: