



## Issue Summary Report

### 8.24. Blanket Exercise on Indigenous History and Culture

#20181106007

**Meeting :** November 13, 2018 Council Meeting

**Meeting Date :** 2018/11/13 10:00

**Meeting Type :** Council Meeting

#### Background

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RMA and AUMA are launching a new initiative to help inform municipal governments on the history and culture of Indigenous peoples as a foundation for building understanding and strengthening relationships. The initiative is an opportunity for municipalities to host a learning session known as a Blanket Exercise. The Blanket Exercise is a tool to further the understanding of Indigenous culture and history and relations between Indigenous peoples and the Crown. It is an interactive session where participants take on the roles of Indigenous people in Canada and explore the history and experiences of Indigenous people. Participants are actively involved as they step into blankets that represent the land and are guided through historical moments that determine their outcome. This exercise is highly regarded as an effective teaching tool for furthering the understanding of Indigenous issues.

AUMA and RMA will provide a facilitator who will help organize and facilitate the exercise. A minimum of 20 and a maximum of 40 individuals must participate - a minimum of 8 must be elected officials. Deadline to apply is November 30th and the Exercise must be held prior to June 30, 2019.

The Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay has expressed interest in partnering on this exercise. Councillor Wirsta is also requesting that Council consider submitting an application through RMA to host a Blanket Exercise.

#### Recommendation

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Administration is recommending to contact the neighbouring municipalities to determine interest in hosting a Blanket Exercise with our Indigenous neighbours.

#### Additional Information

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**Originated By :** pcorbiere