



# MEMBER MOTION

## Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

<b>Meeting:</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	October 25, 2023
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Changes to the Oath of Office Acknowledging Treaty Rights
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Councillor Karen Cilevitz

Whereas most municipalities in Ontario have a land acknowledgement in their opening ceremony; and

Whereas a clear reference to the rights of Indigenous people is the aim of advancing Truth and Reconciliation; and

Whereas Call to Action 94 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada called upon the Government of Canada to replace the wording of the Oath of Citizenship to include the recognition of the laws of Canada including Treaties with Indigenous Peoples; and

Whereas on June 21, 2021, an Act to amend The Citizenship Act received royal assent to include clear reference to the rights of Indigenous peoples aimed at advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action within the broader reconciliation framework; and

Whereas the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada outlines specific calls to action for municipal governments in Canada to act on, including education and collaboration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:

Richmond Hill City Council request from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the following changes be made to the municipal oath of office:

I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada including the Constitution, which recognizes and affirms the Aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples; and

Further that this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Red Tape Reduction, Parm Gill; Daisy Wai, MPP Richmond Hill; and Michael Parsa, MPP Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill; York Region; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Ontario's Big City Mayors; the treaty holders in Richmond Hill, specifically the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (Toronto Purchase, Treaty 13) and the

Chippewa Nations of the Williams Treaties as well as other traditional territory holders.

Moved by: Councillor Karen Cilevitz

Seconded by: