

Request for Council's Consideration			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agenda Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday one week prior to the meeting)	X	Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday one day prior to the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
Date of Council Meeting: June 29, 2021			
Subject: Use of term 'Indian' on municipal streets, place names, assets			
Motion for Council to Consider:			
THAT Regional Council request a staff report regarding the end of use and removal of the word Indian from all municipal street and place names, and recommendations on potential new names, including possible use of Mi'kmaq placenames.			
Reason:			
Regional Council issued a Statement on Reconciliation, noting that the commemoration of Indigenous history must necessarily be situated in the wider context of the Calls to Action issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The Cornwallis Taskforce report recommended that HRM examine its approach to naming streets and places to reintroduce Mi'kmaq place names and language. The term "Indian" is used for several streets, communities, bodies of water, etc. throughout HRM and has been described by members of the Mi'kmaq community as an "outdated and disrespectful" term.			
The term "Indian" refers to the specific legal identity of a First Nations person who is registered under the <i>Indian Act</i> , as defined by federal law since 1876. As such, the term "Indian" is used when referring to a person with registered status. The <i>Indian Act</i> is a contentious issue with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit across Canada due to its oppressive control over their lives, disenfranchisement, confiscation of self-governance, Indian Residential Schools, seizure of land, and more. In Canada, this colonial term has been used to identify a child or adult and their forced registration or absence of status recognition within this systemically racist and sexist legal framework.			
In addition to HRM's usual Civic Addressing processes of engaging with residents and businesses on the affected streets/places, HRM staff should also engage with the Mi'kmaq communities through HRM's Office of Diversity and Inclusion.			
Outcome Sought: Recommendation report.			
<i>Councillor</i> Pam Lovelace		<i>District</i> 13	