

Item 10.3.1

# EVERY ONE. EVERY DAY.

## Kjipuktuk-Halifax

### Wije'winen – Come With Us

In the Winter of 2021, Every One Every Day Kjipuktuk-Halifax (EOED) launched as a pilot initiative, inspired by the work of Participatory City (PC) in London, UK. Over 10+ years of research, PC worked to document their approach to building inclusive participation culture at the scale of neighbourhoods, informing one of the largest neighbourhood demonstration projects in the world. The Every One Every Day Project in the boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, East London, illuminates how participation in practical, everyday activity can transform people's lives and the neighbourhoods in which they live. Read more about the incredible work of Participatory City and the Every One Every Day Project (London) [here](#).

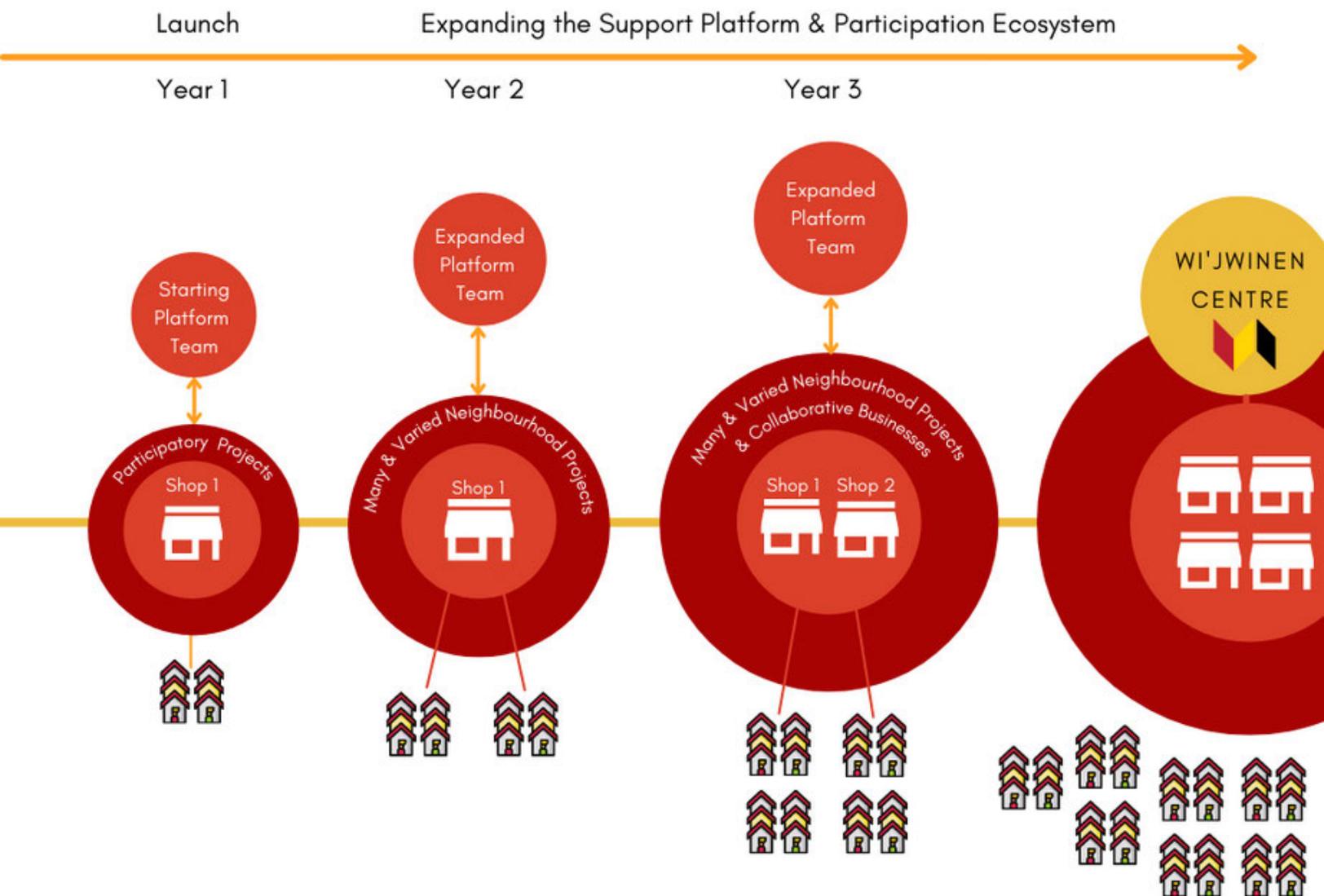
In Halifax, EOED is being led by the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre (MNFC), in partnership with the Participatory City Foundation, [Participatory Canada](#), and diverse local partners. Together we are testing an ambitious idea – that everyday practical participation can become a key building block for inclusive social and economic development and help to advance Reconcli-ACTION - through new models of shared leadership and ownership, and systems of citizen-led life and learning that serve to strengthen cross-cultural relationships and build social cohesion. Read more about our work over the last year [here](#).

EOED is now moving into a new phase of start-up and development, anchored in Halifax's North End and aligned with the vision for MNFC's new Wije'winen Centre. This vision centers on the unique and transformative opportunity for engaged reconciliation, where opportunities for meaningful and inclusive participation, of Indigenous communities, and all communities, can invite cross cultural understanding and create the conditions for living and learning together in new ways.

# EOED Deep Demonstration & Learning Campus

Every One Every Day has an ambitious vision to centre reconciliation in the design of civic and social infrastructure that is purpose built for social cohesion and inclusive participation in more localized and circular economies. It is both physical infrastructure that is designed for inclusivity, as well as the social infrastructure (networks of relationships, peer mentorship and support) that is required for all residents to feel a sense of belonging, and to thrive in a more inclusive and resilient society.

In the first phase of development (Nov 2021-Oct 2024), the EOED platform team will work with North End residents and Halifax's Urban Indigenous community to co-create a decentralized, yet unified platform for practical participation that weaves cultural history and sharing into new networks of peer learning and support. As critical elements of the support platform, two neighbourhood co-creation spaces will be developed in Halifax's North End, acting as key anchors for collections of neighbourhood projects and businesses that can lift inclusive citizen participation to new heights. Essential to our approach is working with Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, and community members to foster Indigenous leadership and create opportunities for cultural knowledge to be shared and celebrated through the emergence of culturally-infused participation projects.



## Key Objectives: A Platform for Inclusive Participation & Reconcil-ACTION

Over the next three years, the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre will lead the prototyping and evaluation of the Participatory City approach, beginning in Halifax's North End. Key objectives include:

1. To test the platforms' ability to enable and facilitate high levels of inclusive participation through a growing network of practical participation projects & collaborative businesses.
2. To collect, analyze and share data around key outcomes related to social cohesion, inclusive economic development and the advancement of reconciliation at the scale of neighbourhoods.
3. To initiate the development of learning architecture that can support knowledge building and sharing across communities and seed the development of the approach in new areas.
4. To create new and long-term pathways for public, philanthropic and private sector partners to support and invest in key outcomes related to social and economic well-being, rooted in principles of reconciliation.

A key focus over the initial three years in Halifax is to seed the development of a deep demonstration learning campus, which can become a central node of the Here and Now School, a global school for participatory systems and design, currently in development by the Participatory City Foundation. Over the course of its development, the Halifax learning campus will invite people and organizations to engage in experiential learning, with open access to knowledge and tools that can help to seed the approach in new places. For Halifax, Every One Every Day invites the possibility to explore and invest in connected systems of civic and social infrastructure that can transform how residents interact with our city, and create the conditions for many different people and their ideas to flourish.



## Alignment with HRMs stated commitments to advancing municipal action on Truth & Reconciliation

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**(Dec 2015)** Halifax Regional Council passed a Statement of Reconciliation to support the municipality's work with Mi'kmaq and Urban Indigenous communities and approved a motion to incorporate an urban aboriginal strategy into the work plan of the Office of Diversity & Inclusion.

**(June 28th 2017)** An action summary outlining next steps on advancing HRM's activity related to Indigenous Affairs included the commitment for a newly hired *Urban Indigenous Community Engagement Advisor to lead engagement around the development of a municipal framework and to continue meetings with representatives from the Mi'kmaq Friendship Centre to identify areas of potential collaboration.*

**(June 30th 2020)** Task Force on the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis outlined twenty recommendations including that HRM continue to nurture its close and productive relationships with Mi'kmaw organizations that can assist with the 69 effective recognition and commemoration of Indigenous history, including (though not limited to) Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn (the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative), Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (the Mi'kmaw education authority), and the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre.

## Alignment to HRM's five-year strategic plan (2021-2025): Involved & Inclusive Communities

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**SOCIAL POLICY** - The municipality's Social Policy has three focus areas: affordable housing, food security and **connected communities**. HRMs strategic plan states that the municipality will work to help build internal capacity across all business units and identify partnerships to enhance collaboration within the focus areas to serve marginalized communities.

**SHARING OUR STORIES (CULTURE & HERITAGE PRIORITIES PLAN)** - The SOS project provides the vision, principles and priorities to more effectively guide investments and decisions related to culture and heritage.

**EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL SERVICES** - Under the Diversity & Inclusion Framework, business units will develop and implement various diversity and inclusion plans and initiatives in collaboration with the Office of D&I and ANSAIO.

## Every One Every Day: The Opportunity

**Indigenous-led, Inclusive to All:** Facilitating co-leadership between the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre and HRM in building systems of participatory social infrastructure that can contribute to more inclusive and connected communities across the Halifax Regional Municipality.

**Joint-Action around the Advancement of Truth & Reconciliation** at the scale of neighbourhoods and communities - creating the conditions for strengthened participation of Halifax's Urban Indigenous community, and all residents, in civic development and growth.

**Advancing Municipal Strategies for Reconciliatory Action and Building Inclusive Communities**, with opportunities for Halifax to lead and facilitate knowledge building and sharing across other municipalities and regions.

## Proposed Action

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- Develop a formalized partnership between HRM and the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre to steward the development and implementation of Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax (Phase One: 2022-2024)
- Allocate/Recruit an HRM staff person (new or existing) to: Act as a primary point of contact within HRM (with knowledge and capacity to navigate within and across municipal departments); Strengthen stakeholder engagement and support the advancement of key EOED deliverables; and, work closely with HRM's existing Indigenous Community Advisor to ensure strong coordination around HRMs activities related to the advancement of Truth and Reconciliation. (See expanded functions below).

A critical first step is to collaboratively identify shared deliverables between MNFC and HRM (based on current EOED objectives & outcomes) and the most appropriate structure to effectively resource the work.

### Critical Functions of Proposed HRM Staff Support

*Internal Government Relations & Multi-Sector Partnerships:* Working inter-departmentally to strengthen internal awareness and collaboration around HRMs role in Indigenous issues, and leveraging opportunities related to the development of the EOED platform and participation ecosystem; Strengthening alignment across affiliated organizations (Halifax Partnership, Halifax Public Libraries) and diverse external partners, to support and strengthen collaborative efforts around the development of inclusive civic and social infrastructure across the Halifax Region.

*Facilitating Indigenous Leadership & Engagement:* Working with HRM staff, the EOED Project Team, and the Urban Indigenous community across Halifax to explore and pilot models of shared leadership and governance, in support of the long term development and growth of a participation support platform that centers reconciliation and is inclusive to all.

*Policy Development & Change:* Helping to identify and address policy barriers and support processes related to permitting and planning, in order to facilitate the shared use and access of of new and existing lands and infrastructures that can support community innovation and co-creation.

*Identifying & Connecting Opportunities related to the use of municipal infrastructure and assets:* Working across multiple departments (ie. Parks and Recreation, Diversity & Inclusion, Public Safety Office) to identify existing and new assets (ie. buildings, land, digital infrastructure) that could be accessed and incorporated into the EOED platform; Making recommendations on the development of existing and new infrastructure to support inclusive participation.

*Facilitating Opportunities for Knowledge Building and Sharing* across Nova Scotia and other Canadian municipalities around municipal leadership in Reconciliatory Action and Building Inclusive Communities.

### **Contacts:**

EOED Co-Director: Aimee Gasparetto: [REDACTED]

EOED Co-Director: Wyatt White: [REDACTED]

December 12, 2021

Dear Invest Nova Scotia evaluation committee:

**Re: Every One Every Day Kjipuktuk - Letter of Support**

On behalf of Develop Nova Scotia, please accept this letter in support of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre's application for funding for Every One Every Day Kjipuktuk.

Develop Nova Scotia, a Provincial Crown corporation, aims to build places people love. We are guided by a sustainable place-based development strategy that builds on our natural and comparative advantages as a province and aims to improve economic prosperity and well being for everyone. We focus on "how" we build places as much as "what" we build and our goal is twofold: 1. Build places in Nova Scotia that attract people to visit, live, and invest here 2. Build community participation, understanding, and resiliency by building places together.

We are so pleased to support the Every One Every Day Kjipuktuk (EOED) project, as the outcomes of the project link directly to our own goals. EOED is about building a platform that supports vibrant, inclusive and resilient neighbourhoods. This platform brings together people and functional and inviting spaces for people to interact, participate and learn from one another. A built-in and robust evaluation process will measure outcomes based on personal and subjective well-being and neighborhood impact. As a participant-led project, EOED, also responds and adapts to COVID-19 realities by supporting residents in outside activities, creation of public art, and sharing and learning opportunities in safe and inviting ways.

Most importantly, EOED is about taking action on Reconciliation. Inclusion, participation and learning through cross-cultural sharing is at the core of EOED. Having the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre as the core delivery partner means that EOED is rooted in Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous culture. This is both a real and symbolic shift in thinking and doing that is necessary to move forward on a path toward Reconciliation.

For the past 2 years, Develop Nova Scotia has been part of a diverse team committed to building a Participatory City model and collaborative governance structure to guide the EOED project. We couldn't be prouder of what's been accomplished to date, including necessary and overdue conversations on equity, inclusion and Reconciliation and the building of relationships between community, neighbourhood, government and non-profit organizations. We look forward to continuing to support MNFC and the EOED Team to build out a participatory structure that is inclusive, scalable and self-sustaining.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, 

Original Signed

  
Jennifer Angel  
President & Chief Executive Officer



December 14, 2021

To: Invest Nova Scotia

Re: Letter of support for our partner, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, for Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax, part of Participatory Canada

Dear Selection Committee,

We write to express our enthusiastic support for the application of our close partner, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre (MNFC) titled Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax.

The McConnell Foundation is a pan-Canadian philanthropic foundation that develops and applies innovative approaches to social, cultural, economic, and environmental challenges. We do so through granting and investing, capability building, convening, and co-creation with partners and the public. Our focus areas include: 1) transition to an equitable net-zero economy; 2) Indigenous reconciliation and social inclusion; 3) and community wellbeing. We leverage social innovation and social finance tools to advance these priority areas.

I have led the cities portfolio over the past eight years, during which time we've carried out many collaborations with people, organizations, and governments to develop, test, and launch innovative ways of building regenerative, inclusive, and equitable communities. Since the inception of this portfolio, we have supported over 130 grants and partnerships.

One exciting initiative that we prototyped with partners in 2020-21 is called Participatory Canada (see full report and short video featuring Halifax here: [www.participatorycanada.ca/y1report](http://www.participatorycanada.ca/y1report)). The work drew on the very successful participatory city social infrastructure approach developed in London UK by the Participatory City Foundation, who became our joint venture partner to adapt the approach. In the inaugural year of activity, Participatory Canada, with co-investment from the Government of Canada's Investment Readiness Program (ESDC), partnered with local organizations and governments in Montreal, Toronto, and Halifax in a social research and development (R&D) phase to explore feasibility and adapt participation systems to local context and strengthen community resilience. Participatory Canada is increasingly seen as a social infrastructure for our times to help build social cohesion, skills, and capabilities of residents to work together and build collaborative businesses and cooperative efforts to address the growing challenges that communities face.

Covid-19 and other crises of the past couple of years have hit communities hard, especially those already most vulnerable. Despite the challenges, the Halifax Every One Every Day prototype proved to be remarkably promising in its potential for longer-term transformation. Of the three city prototypes, the Halifax project led by MNFC stood out as the most compelling. In fact, based on MNFC's leadership and work led by Pamela Glode-Desrochers and Aimee Gasparetto, the McConnell Foundation granted an additional \$1.5 million to MNFC to support

the next phase of work: a deep demonstration learning campus in Halifax that can also serve as a learning ground to communities elsewhere. Particularly compelling is that the work is Indigenous-led, that it centers reconciliation, and that it is welcoming of everyone and bridges across difference, including to African Nova Scotians and newcomers to Canada, as well as long-time residents.

This project has significant implications for Covid-19 in the near term (i.e., in addressing social isolation and increased racial tension and inequities). Moreover, it establishes a foundation to advance reconciliation in the short- and long-term not only in Halifax but also as a beacon for other communities in Canada. Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax can demonstrate how Traditional Knowledge and Teachings can be embedded in social infrastructure and community resilience programs.

Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax is both ambitious and practical. It speaks to a vision of creating seven-generation cities while providing a platform for action and learning on-the-ground that connects neighbours and organizations, and builds social entrepreneurship skills. We have been working closely with the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre and the whole Every One Every Day Kijipuktuk-Halifax team and strategic partners throughout 2020 and 2021. We have been absolutely thrilled to support this critical work and truly believe in its transformative potential in building healthy communities and advancing reconciliation in an urban context.

I would be pleased to answer any questions or provide further information in support of this application.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Jayne Engle, PhD  
Program Director, Communities  
McConnell Foundation

Adjunct Professor  
McGill University, School of Urban Planning



December 15, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to offer this letter in support of the application for funding from the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre to Invest Nova Scotia. As a partner and member of the EOED Kjiptuk/Halifax strategic working group, United Way Halifax sees firsthand the incredible opportunities in front of us, and we are a committed and passionate supporter.

United Way Halifax has been excited by the potential of this initiative from the beginning. This initiative and partnership are only made more important as we respond to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, and the increased isolation and exacerbated inequities in our communities. EOED works shoulder to shoulder with residents to design and build local solutions. EOED ignites new hope, promotes social connections and cohesion, and enhances public spaces all of which are making a difference. There are two unique opportunities in front of us I) The meaningful ways for community members to connect and share across cultures. It provides opportunities to foster connections with the Indigenous community in Kjiptuk and integrate Indigenous knowledge systems and worldviews into community activities and infrastructure advancing the aims of Truth and Reconciliation II) In the place that colonization of Canada began, to lead the way as a deep learning and demonstration site that can advance Truth and Reconciliation here and provide a platform for learning across Canada.

A successful application to Invest Nova Scotia would allow for the following:

- EOED Kjiptuk/Halifax to deepen their partnerships within the strategic group.
- Further engagement of residents in participatory design focused on community principles, inclusive spaces and resident led projects.
- Support access to a central space for this important initiative.
- Support a deep learning centre and demonstration site.
- Help refine the evaluation approach around advancing reconciliation and inclusive participation.

Please accept this letter in full support of the EOED Kjiptuk/Halifax initiative and the application for support to Invest Nova Scotia

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Sue LaPierre  
Director, Community Impact  
United Way Halifax