

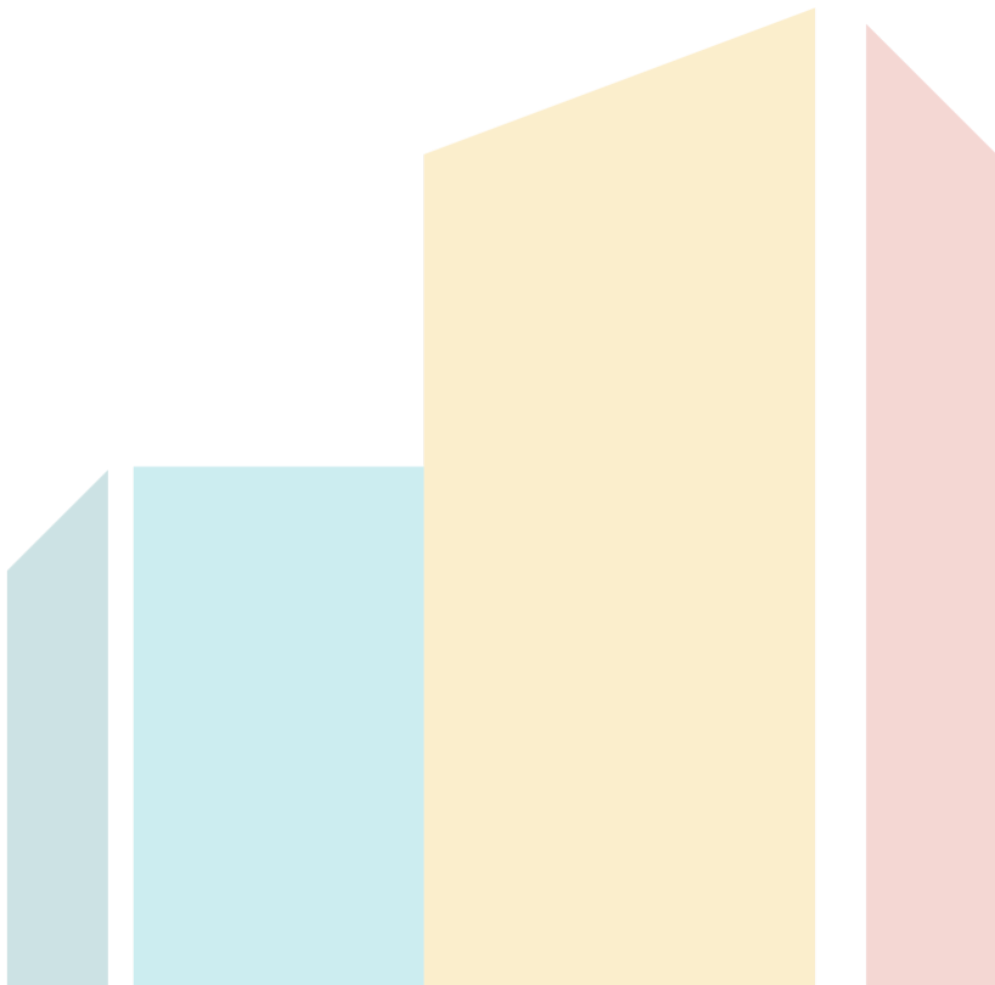


FIRST VOICE  
Urban Indigenous Coalition

*Proceedings of the*

# Partnership Table

*October 2020*





**FIRST VOICE**  
Urban Indigenous Coalition

**Partnership Table**  
**Meeting Agenda | October 2020**

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 // 3:30-5:00pm // via Video Conference

| <b>Time</b> | <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Leader</b>   |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| 3:30pm      | Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer  | Ellen Ford      |
| 3:35pm      | Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review &amp; Approval of Agenda</li><li>• Review &amp; Approval of Minutes</li></ul>  | Justin Campbell |
| 3:45pm      | Updates & Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social Media Feeds</li><li>• Engaging the New Provincial Government</li><li>• City Declaration</li><li>• Conference Planning Committee</li></ul>                                   | Justin Campbell |
| 4:05pm      | Community Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recap of Purpose &amp; Process</li><li>• Time Horizon</li><li>• Review &amp; Selection of TRC Calls to Action and MMIWG Calls for Justice</li><li>• Other Objectives</li></ul> | Justin Campbell |
| 4:45pm      | Other Business   | Open Floor      |
| 4:55pm      | Closing Prayer   | Ellen Ford      |



**FIRST VOICE**  
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# Partnership Table Minutes for October 7, 2020

Prepared by Justin Campbell

## Call to Order

The October 2020 meeting of the First Voice Partnership Table was called to order by Justin Campbell at 3:35pm on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. The meeting was held via video conference. Inuit Elder Ellen Ford offered the opening prayer.

## Present

- **Angelica Vincent**, Community Advocate (R)
- **Cyril Tobin**, Executive Director, NL Housing and Homelessness Network (R)
- **Daphne March**, Community Advocate (R)
- **Dorothy Haché**, Intergovernmental Affairs Officer, Indigenous Services Canada (R)
- **Draco Dunphy**, Community Advocate (R)
- **Ellen Ford**, Inuit Elder (R)
- **Jordan Lawrence**, Community Advocate (R)
- **Justin Campbell**, Program Manager, First Voice (R)
- **Laura Winters**, Executive Director, St. John's Status of Women Council (R)
- **Maggie Burton**, Councillor at Large, City of St. John's (R)
- **Mollie Butler**, Regional Director, Professional Practice and Indigenous Health, Eastern Health (R)
- **Pam Griffin**, Manager of Program Delivery, Public Health Agency of Canada (R)
- **Paula Sheppard**, President and CEO, Provincial Advisory Council on the Status of Women (R)
- **Stacey Howse**, Director of Programs, First Light (R)

## Regrets

- **Carey Majid**, Executive Director, NL Human Rights Commission
- **Catharyn Andersen**, Special Advisor to the President on Indigenous Affairs, Memorial University
- **Charlotte Winters-Fost**, Community Advocate

## First Voice | Partnership Table Minutes for October 7, 2020

- **Ian Froude**, Councillor Ward 4, City of St. John's
- **Marjorie Muise**, First Nations Elder
- **Michael Lannon**, Community Advocate
- **Wendolyn Schlamp**, Executive Director, YWCA St. John's

### Administration

- The minutes for the Partnership Table meeting held on September 2, 2020, were approved with no revisions. The document will be posted to the First Voice website.

### Updates & Reports

#### 1. Social Media Feeds

- First Voice social media feeds have been launched on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. As agreed at the previous meeting, these feeds will initially be used only to promote First Voice's own activities and events until a formal social media policy is agreed. This is expected to take place by mid-November 2020.
- First Voice social media feeds have already been used to promote events such as the signing ceremony that was held with the City of St. John's to mark the *Declaration in Support of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* on September 24, 2020. (See item 3 below.)
- The @FirstVoiceNL Twitter and Facebook accounts currently have approximately 130 followers each.

#### 2. Engaging the New Provincial Government

- In response to First Voice's letter to the new Premier, sent on August 19, 2020, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation Lisa Dempster was in touch with both First Voice and First Light. A meeting with her and her staff took place on September 11, 2020.
  - The meeting with the Minister highlighted First Voice's four priority areas as well as broad discussions on how the new government intends to advance reconciliation in St. John's and across Newfoundland and Labrador.
  - It was suggested that a senior departmental representative, if not the Minister herself, be invited to participate in Partnership Table meetings on a quarterly basis in order facilitate relationship-building between First Voice and the provincial government.

**First Voice | Partnership Table**  
**Minutes for October 7, 2020**

- An invitation was extended to Minister Dempster to speak at the upcoming Policy Conference on November 5-6, 2020.

3. City of St. John's *Declaration in Support of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

- In order to formalize the City of St. John's membership in and commitment to the values and objectives of First Voice, in August 2020 the Partnership Table began collaborating with members of City Council and senior City staff to prepare a motion to be passed by City Council.
- At its regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020, City Council unanimously passed the *Declaration in Support of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. A joint media release was issued later that afternoon and was posted on both the City's and First Voice's websites.
- To mark the *Declaration*, a socially-distanced signing ceremony was held at the First Light Centre for Performance and Creativity on Thursday, September 24, 2020. The event was attended by approximately 30 individuals, including members of City Council, members of the Partnership Table, members of the urban Indigenous community, and members of the general public.
  - Mayor Danny Breen signed the *Declaration* on behalf of the City, while Susan Onalik, Chair of the Board of Directors of First Light, signed on behalf of First Voice.
  - The event was livestreamed via First Voice's Twitter and Social Media feeds and also attracted media attention on CBC Radio, CBC TV's *Here and Now*, VOXM News, and NTV's *Evening News Hour*.

4. Policy Conference

- The Policy Conference Planning Committee, formed at the last meeting of the Partnership Table, convened on the following dates:
  - Friday, September 11, 2020;
  - Friday, September 25, 2020; and
  - Monday, September 28, 2020.
- The Committee has decided to promote the conference as ***Decolonize YYT: Pathways to Reconciliation***.
  - An initial promotional push began on Monday, October 5, 2020, including on social media and by direct email to organizations that have been previously engaged in First Voice activities as Contributors or Supporters.

## First Voice | Partnership Table

### Minutes for October 7, 2020

- Conference details, including objectives, agenda, format, and speakers, are available online at [firstvoicenl.ca/DecolonizeYYT](https://firstvoicenl.ca/DecolonizeYYT).
- The conference will include public sessions that will be livestreamed via First Voice's social media feeds, as well as closed sessions (participation by invitation only) focused on identifying specific policy objectives for First Voice to pursue in each of its four priority areas.
- Invitations have been extended to several potential panellists and keynote speakers.
  - Jesse Thistle, author of the best-selling memoir *From the Ashes*, has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for November 6, 2020.

### Regular Business

#### 1. Community Action Plan

- As outlined in the coalition's Terms of Reference, a collaborative Community Action Plan will be developed to help focus First Voice's efforts over the next several years while also building consensus among Partners, Contributors, and Supporters with respect to the work that needs to be done to support the urban Indigenous community. The expectation is that the final plan will be promoted widely and reviewed on an annual basis.
- The Community Action Plan will be based on the existing recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The 350+ recommendations included in these documents will be filtered, ranked, and prioritized based on the local context in St. John's, and then further discussed and developed at the Decolonize YYT policy conference.
- **IT WAS DECIDED THAT** the Community Action Plan will be based on a ten-year timeframe (2021-2030), with specific objectives sorted into short-, medium-, and long-term goals.
- **IT WAS FURTHER DECIDED THAT** a subcommittee will be formed to begin the process of identifying specific objectives to include in the Community Action Plan. The subcommittee comprises the following members of the Partnership Table:
  - Jordan Lawrence, Community Advocate
  - Draco Dunphy, Community Advocate
  - Daphne March, Community Advocate

**First Voice | Partnership Table**  
**Minutes for October 7, 2020**

- Justin Campbell, Program Manager, First Voice
- Stacey Howse, Director of Programs, First Light
- The subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Input from other members of the Partnership Table is welcome and can be submitted to the Program Manager by email no later than 5:00pm on Friday, October 9, 2020.

**Other Business**

- No other business was raised.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Justin Campbell at 5:02pm following the closing prayer offered by Inuit Elder Ellen Ford. The next meeting of the Partnership Table will take place via video conference on Wednesday, November 4, 2020, from 3:30pm to 5:00pm.