

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

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DATE: June 2, 2022

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Deanna Wasnik, Director of Planning & Development

SUBJECT: Renaming of O'Grady Road

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Staff Report to Council titled "Renaming of O'Grady Road – Process and Considerations"
- Exhibit "A" (Map of Properties Located Along O'Grady Road)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That Council APPROVES renaming O'Grady Road to "Dakelh Ti", which means First Nation Road, and DIRECTS Administration to proceed with implementation of the road name change.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to rename O'Grady Road to "Dakelh Ti", which means First Nation Road.

BACKGROUND:

During the Regular Meeting of Council held on August 30, 2021, Council received the Staff Report to Council titled, "Renaming of O'Grady Road – Process and Considerations".

The staff report was prepared in response to a Council resolution passed on July 12, 2021 that directed Administration to prepare a report to Council describing the process and options for consideration to change the name of O'Grady Road, following a request by the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.

The staff report provided background on naming streets, the considerations for a road name change, and three (3) options of recommendations for Council to consider.

Council resolved that proposed recommendation #1 be pursued, which stated:

"That Council DIRECTS Administration to proceed with renaming O'Grady Road in consultation with the Lheidli T'enneh, and report back to Council on the name decision and the next steps regarding implementation of the road name change".

DISCUSSION:

Following the August 30, 2021 Council Meeting, Administration contacted the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation to advise of the resolution passed by Council. Administration was invited to an Elders Meeting to provide an overview of the steps involved in a road name change. During the meeting, thoughtful conversation respecting potential names for the road, street signage, and timing of the name change occurred.

New Road Name

The Lheidli T'enneh First Nation has confirmed their choice of the new road name to be **Dakelh Ti**, which means First Nation Road. This name acknowledges all Dakelh people who attended the school located along O'Grady Road (previous O'Grady High School), and Residential schools in general.

The proposed road name has been reviewed by the E911 Addressing Safety Committee which includes the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG), the RCMP and the Prince George Fire Department. The Committee has no concerns with the proposed road name.

Communication of Road Name Change

The previous staff report considered by Council on August 30, 2021 (attached) includes a summary list, and Exhibit "A" map of the properties along O'Grady road that are subject to the road name change.

Administration and Lheidli T'enneh First Nation intend to further collaborate on the timing of the road name change to allow for the preparation of a communication plan and street signage. The communication plan will include the date of the road name officially being changed to Dakelh Ti, acknowledgement from the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, and information on some of the common documentation residents would need to update to reflect the new road name.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The proposed name change for O'Grady Road is in keeping with the vision and values of Council's 2022-2024 Strategic Plan. More specifically the renaming of the road is consistent with the City Government and Infrastructure goal of acting on relevant calls-to-action established by the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada, as well as continue to build relations with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and Urban Indigenous organizations.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

Administration is seeking Council support to rename O'Grady Road to "Dakelh Ti", which means First Nation Road. Should Council support the proposed road rename, Administration and Lheidli T'enneh First Nation will continue to work together on the implementation of the road name change.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Deanna Wasnik
Director of Planning & Development

APPROVED:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: June 13, 2022