

## City of Port Colborne Council Meeting Addendum

Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Pages

## 6. Proclamations

\*6.2 Indigenous Veterans Day - November 8, 2025

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Letter to Members of Port Colborne City Council, CAO, and City Clerk Dated, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Re: Indigenous Veterans Day November 8th, 2025

Dear Mayor Steele, Members of Council, CAO, and City Clerk,

As you may know, each year since 1994 Canada commemorates November 8<sup>th</sup> as **Indigenous Veterans Day** thereby officially recognizing and honouring the substantial military contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis veterans. This important day serves to acknowledge the longstanding history of Indigenous military service, beginning with the War of 1812, the notably high rates of Indigenous volunteerism during conflicts such as both World Wars, and the ongoing commitment of Indigenous peoples in present-day service.

Additionally, Indigenous Veterans Day serves to recognize the historical injustices experienced by returning veterans, including the loss of Indian status under the Indian Act, and establishes a dedicated occasion for communities to express appreciation and enhance public understanding of their sacrifices and resilience.

In honour of this important day, I would like to please put forward a special request to the Municipality of Port Colborne to proclaim November 8th, 2025, as Indigenous Veterans Day at its upcoming Council Meeting, Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup> - following the opening of the land acknowledgement statement.

Providing such an Official Proclamation by the Mayor and City Council would support Port Colborne's existing commitment in recognizing the land's Indigenous history, would reinforce its municipal and community dedication to standing in solidarity with all Indigenous peoples, and would express gratitude and a deeper awareness among residents regarding the vital role Indigenous individuals have played in shaping Canada.

Hoping this invitation to proclaim November 8<sup>th</sup> as Indigenous Veterans Day will be highly accepted by the City Clerk, Council and CAO to be included in the Mayoral readings of "Official Proclamations" at the upcoming Council meeting agenda on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you. Respectfully,

## **Robert Sheele**

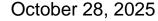
Retired Citizen



Memberships in good standing

Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum Ontario Historical Society Indigenous Tourism Ontario







Moved by Councillor Seconded by Councillor

**WHEREAS** more than 12,000 First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples served to defend Canada in times of war and conflicts, natural disasters and in peace time; and

**WHEREAS** Indigenous peoples were forced to overcome many challenges to serve such as learning a new language, adapting to a new culture, and travelling long distances to enlist; and

**WHEREAS** Indigenous peoples have served with honour and distinction, bringing their unique culture and heritage to their work; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that over 2,700 Indigenous Peoples currently serve in the Canadian Armed Forces; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, I, William C. Steele, Mayor of the City of Port Colborne, do hereby proclaim November 8, 2025, as Indigenous Veterans Day; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT,** residents of Port Colborne are encouraged to remember and reflect on the long and proud tradition of Indigenous military service to Canada; and

**FURTHER**, On November 11th, the City will pause in a moment of silence to honour and remember all the men and women who have served, and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict and peace.

William C. Steele Mayor