



**THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY**

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

City of Kamloops and Thompson Rivers University Memorandum of Understanding Backgrounder

Mayor Ken Christian and former TRU President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Alan Shaver formally signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on August 23, 2018. The intent of the MOU was to formalize and build on existing relationships and work together toward future goals and activities where collaboration on shared goals may benefit the City, TRU, and the broader Kamloops community.

This summary outlines the projects, initiatives, and research that have been shared since the MOU was signed. The items listed below are categorized in accordance with the areas of collaboration identified in the MOU.

Educational Programming in Support of the People of Kamloops

- A joint application to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for a planning grant to implement the Healthy Urban Policy
- The Tournament Capital Centre (TCC) is home to the TRU basketball, volleyball, soccer, and swimming varsity teams, including home swim meets. Both parties work together to enhance the spectators' experience.
- Provision of TCC for numerous high school basketball and volleyball tournaments.
- Sponsor and Alumni Appreciation Event at TCC.
- The City has approved TRU's proposal to install a "TRU Athletics Alumni Wall of Fame"
- TRU Convocation in June and October of each year, held at the Tournament Capital Centre (TCC)
- The City provided a letter of support for TRU's bid to host the Canadian Interuniversity Sport National Soccer finals in 2021 or 2022.
- The City runs the TRU Invitational Swim Meet every spring in partnership with TRU and the Kamloops Classics Swim Club.
- The Adventure Tourism program provides canoe, kayak, and water safety instruction at the Canada Games Aquatic Centre.
- The City's Exercise Specialist Coordinator works in collaboration with TRU as a field guide and preceptor for Undergraduate Nursing students, and is a guest lecturer.
- Instructors in TRU's School of Nursing provide expertise to group-based City fitness instructors to help make exercise safer for older adults.
- Blood pressure clinics and other public education/awareness opportunities.
- Community-driven research idea to quantify the cost of preventable acute care visits by women with breast cancer in Kamloops at RIH.
- Future collaboration being explored with Dr. Mark Rakobowchuk, associate professor and exercise physiology researcher, on the implications of exercise for people with chronic conditions.
- The City continues to host a research and training facility at the Kamloops Centre for Water Quality, through a partnership with TRU, the City and Suez.

Innovation and Planning Leading to Environmental, Social, Cultural, and Economic Sustainable Development

- Social issue planning
- Kamloops Innovation Centre
- Bylaw Officer training program
- Kamloops Fire Rescue is working with TRU's Business School MBA program as part of an officer training program.
- The City is working with TRU and the XChange Advisory Committee to support the advancement of each party's shared community goals and objectives.
- TRU will be leading a cultural mapping of the opioid crisis, which will be supported by the City's Social and Community Development team
- TRU contributed as stakeholders to the 2020 Housing Needs Report, and will play a similar role in the new Kamloops Social Plan and future Point-in-Time Homelessness Counts.
- The City is developing an expression of interest to work collaboratively in developing an API project that would integrate the City's PerfectMind recreation software application to provide real-time availability calendars for some City facilities.

Site Services and Infrastructure in Support of the Activities of TRU and the City

- Joint traffic/transportation study
- Certificate of Compliance from the Ministry of Environment for the former McGill Landfill
- Joint review of utility servicing

Land Use, Infrastructure, and Urban and Campus Planning

- Joint review of potential relocation of the TRU transit exchange.
- Joint review and planning for a potential future Summit Drive pedestrian overpass.

Emergency and Risk Management

- Mayor and TRU working on the research chair in this area.

Communications and Engagement Activities

- Joint conversations with the Kamloops Innovation Council (KIC) on possible options for the KIC and energy management.

Additional details on many of these items can be found in the May 12, 2020 report to Council titled "Update on Memorandum of Understanding with Thompson Rivers University," available under the Past Meetings tab at [Kamloops.ca/CouncilCalendar](https://www.kamloops.ca/CouncilCalendar).