

From: [Web NoReply](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Email - Communication - Dan Norton - Renaming John A MacDonald Road - File CK 6310-1
Date: Friday, June 18, 2021 4:28:20 PM

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Submitted on Friday, June 18, 2021 - 16:28

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Friday, June 18, 2021

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Dan

Last Name Norton

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] John A MACDONALD RD

City SASKATOON

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code S7L [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject Name change John a macdonald rd

Meeting (if known)

Comments

There has been a lot of reaction to the news that I am pursuing a motion for City Council to direct our administration to begin the process of changing the name of John A Macdonald Road.

Much of that reaction this time around is very positive. It looks like, as our country continues to discover more atrocities associated with the Indian Residential School System, the more understanding there is that we need to do more to help indigenous families heal from decades of abuse under the Indian Residential School system.

This is not changing history. This is correcting a wrong. His name can still be in the history books as the first Prime Minister of Canada, but since his name is associated with residential schools more than any other name, we cannot ask indigenous families who cross or use that street every day, to “get over it,” while they look up and see that name. Many of those families by the way, are still struggling from the effects they or their mothers and fathers suffered in residential schools. While he belongs in Canada’s history books, his name no longer deserves to be on a pedestal – or a street.

This is just one small step in our journey towards reconciliation. But it is an important one here in Saskatoon, as it will show that we in our city are ready to walk alongside each other and support each other.

I understand that those living on this road, such as yourself, are going to be faced with the challenge of transitioning to a new address. I am working with our administration and the Saskatoon Tribal Council to find ways to minimize the challenges associated with that transition. Tribal Chief Mark Arcand has pledged to ensure the transition will be as smooth as possible.

As for the idea of just Macdonald Road, I will certainly bring that forward, but based on the many conversations I have had, I am almost certain that this would be perceived as some kind of half measure, since the name would, in fact, still exist on that road. This from city councilmen. I don't believe that the chief can do anything to help transition for the people that live on John a Macdonald rd. 32 yrs living on John a. 32 yrs of giving out our address to people all over the world. Not to mention all the government address changes. Land titles etc. what help. It's a one-sided problem. And one-sided choice. I understand to change but not to change it to. Reconciliation. Why not other names of heroes in our city. Or Joni Mitchell. I believe we that live on this rd. Have any choice to listen and watch as the changes take place without our voices. As this came from our Westend alderman. Has not even asked the people on John a Their opinion. This is not way to keep everyone happy by a one-sided vote

Attachments

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

