

Original John Arcand Submission

Name: Erin O'Connor
Company:
Address: [REDACTED] McPherson Ave
Address:
City/Town: Saskatoon
Province: SK
Postal Code: S7N [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Phone Number: [REDACTED]

==Naming==

Requested name: John Arcand Ave
Requested use of name: Street
Background Information (Reason for name request):
McPherson Avenue in Saskatoon was named after David Lewis MacPherson, whose "egregious colonial policy decisions" against local Métis people was one of the leading catalysts of the North West Rebellion.

The name should be changed to honour renowned fiddler and Order of Canada medalist, John Arcand, whose annual FiddleFest is a significant part of Saskatoon tourism.

If you have submitted a person's name, please provide a short biography (Given name, date of birth, place of birth, contributions, awards, achievements or other related information):

John Arcand
B. [REDACTED], Debden, SK
"Master of the Métis Fiddle"

John Arcand is an accomplished fiddler and fiddle-maker. He is humble and caring and kind, and has spent his whole life serving the people of this Province. His annual FiddleFest is a huge part of Saskatoon's tourism budget. He is a winner of the Order of Canada, and perhaps more significantly, last year he was awarded the Order of Gabriel Dumont.

You can find biographical details on his wikipedia page, including his awards, contributions, and wide discography. There is more in the recent publication by the Gabriel Dumont Institute Press, Master of the Métis Fiddle, John Arcand: The Man, The Music, The Festival (ISBN 978-1-926795-83-6).

Here are select comments from this petition
<https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/rename-mcpherson-ave-in-yxe>
with over 450 signatures and over 100 comments in favour since Friday afternoon.

"John Arcand continues to play a pivotal role in honouring and sharing his Métis heritage and culture, especially with his wonderful fiddle music. This would be a fitting tribute to him and to the Métis Nation. Please do this!"

"This would be a great honour for a wonderful Metis leader/role model"

"More than happy to see this street in honor to the king of the Metis Fiddle and his accomplishments to his Province and his Metis Culture through his fiddle."

"What a great idea to honour our very own Métis by recognizing this wonderful man."

"As the Master of Metis Fiddle, recipient of the Order of Canada and huge provider for the community, this would be wonderful!"

"John Arcand has been vital to keeping the traditions of Métis culture alive. His efforts to preserve traditional Métis style fiddle are unmatched, he fits the name 'Master Of The Métis Fiddle' entirely"

"Renowned Métis fiddler John Arcand is a force. This would be a small but powerful step toward reconciliation"

"We should not be honoring our colonial and racist history of the Metis Nation and Treaty 6 territory"

"In the spirit of reconciliation this ave should be renamed to really honour a real Métis who has maintained and nurtured the Métis traditions and way of life. He is truly a notable Saskatchewan Métis deserving of this recognition."

"Overdue to make this change. We cannot change the past but we can change what we choose to honour."

"He's done so much for the Metis people as well as the community of Saskatoon and Saskatchewan."

"John Arcand has influenced not only the Metis community but the whole of Canada through his love of the Fiddle and the Metis Culture. John has touched so many people through his Fiddlefest world wide.
Thank you for considering this fine gentleman."

"John Arcand is very deserving of this consideration. Most importantly, John has mentored and provided so many youth province-wide with opportunity to learn the fiddle as well as John has been such a positive influence in their lives. John is a skilled craftsman and gifted musician. He is an ideal ambassador of the Métis heritage and role model on how to live ones life

and not just talk about what should be done. John is humble, very wise and always puts others first."

Attachment:

Additional comments: Your file upload button isn't working. If you google his name, you'll find any number of photos and videos of him playing music, crafting fiddles, and winning awards.

Do you wish to address the Naming Advisory Committee? Yes