

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Skyler Key - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 26, 2023 11:14 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Skyler Key - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Saturday, August 26, 2023 - 23:13

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Saturday, August 26, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Skyler

**Last Name:** Key

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Horner Crescent

**Neighbourhood:** [Evergreen](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** August 30 2023 City Council Regular Business Meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 8.3.2 John A. Macdonald Road Renaming

**Comments:**

I support the proposed street name change for John A. Macdonald Road to miyo-wahkohtowin Road. I just have one request. The extremely awkward scenes involving residents of this street at City Hall earlier this month were in my opinion entirely foreseeable and likely could have been better mitigated had City Council and Administration been more diligent in the process and more open in communication over the past two years. But what's done is done.

Whether it was actually written down or not, I had always thought from verbal statements in the media and at Council meetings that City Council had promised no financial costs for residents of this street resulting from the street name change. Yet some of the wording in recent reports and formal communications from Administration seem to be written in a way to manage expectations. In truly upholding the spirit of miyo-wahkohtowin (good relationships), please hold your fellow members of City Council as well as Administration accountable for covering any financial costs to residents.

As a final note, street name changes like this one will likely become more common, and there is often concern about impact on mail service. I would urge City Council to consider some way to lobby Canada Post or relevant agencies for process changes on their end that would make street name changes more seamless.

Thank you for your time.

Skyler Key (he/they)

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Jordan Cantwell - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 8:22 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Jordan Cantwell - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 08:22

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Jordan

**Last Name:** Cantwell

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** [REDACTED]

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] McKercher Drive

**Neighbourhood:** [College Park](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Change of name for John A MacDonald Rd

**Comments:**

I strongly support changing the name of John A MacDonald Road to miyo-wâhkôhtowin road. Knowing the first Prime Minister's involvement in the creation and implementation of residential schools makes it very jarring to see his name attached to public spaces in a way that honors him. Just because someone plays a pivotal role in history doesn't mean that their legacy should be honored in a way that ignores the atrocities they perpetrated. Our history as a nation is complicated. Telling the truth means presenting the ugly along with the good so that we never forget either.

While we figure out how to do that with the people in our country's past, let us practice BEING good relations by renaming this road.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Lisa Erickson - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 8:27 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Lisa Erickson - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 08:26

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Lisa

**Last Name:** Erickson

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] 32nd Street West

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Monday August 28, 2023

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Renaming of John A. Macdonald Road to miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road

**Comments:**

Dear Council:

I am writing to convey my full support for the renaming of John A. Macdonald Road to miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road.

Miyo-wâhkôhtowin represents the future I want for my family and our city, and the renaming aligns with our shared obligation and responsibility for reconciliation. I urge you to approve the renaming and continue along a journey of brave municipal governance aligned with the TRC Calls to Action and the principle of miyo-wâhkôhtowin.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Erickson

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Noelle Chorney - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Noelle Chorney - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 08:49

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Noelle

**Last Name:** Chorney

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** [REDACTED]

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Sturgeon Drive

**Neighbourhood:** [River Heights](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** August 28 City Council Meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Renaming John A. MacDonald Road

**Comments:**

I would like to express my support to rename John A. MacDonald Road to miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road as an act of reconciliation by the City of Saskatoon, and in support of Reconciliation Saskatoon.

It is my sincere hope that this change will inspire Saskatoon residents to learn about the meaning of miyo-wâhkôhtowin and reflect on ways to improve relationships among the Nations who share this land, in keeping with the TRC's calls to action. This change is reconciliation in action.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No



## Janzen, Heather

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Grant Orchard - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

-----Original Message-----

From: Grant Orchard <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:33 AM

To: Councillor's Office <[Councillors.Office@saskatoon.ca](mailto:Councillors.Office@saskatoon.ca)>

Subject: The proposal to re-name John A. MacDonald Road

[Warning: This email originated outside our email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]

To Mayor Clark and City Councillors,

It is with grave concern I write to you about the proposed renaming of John A MacDonald Road in Saskatoon. I believe this misdirected attempt to exhibit some superficial "quick fix" to a perceived injustice will result in nothing more than confusion and continued resentment.

Our first Prime Minister gave his life to the work of founding and building this nation, and without his contributions, we, along with First Nations and more would no doubt be part of the United States, possibly in the same class as Puerto Rico, (a territory with voice, but no vote in the U.S. House of Representatives), treaty-less, drafted into the U.S. Army, and more.

During his tenure, MacDonald was attacked by the opposition Liberals for being too generous to the "Indians", his attempt to introduce a law to give the vote to Natives in 1885 was defeated, and his hopes to initiate a plan to teach farming and industrial skills to Indigenous youth turned into the system of residential schools now being compensated for.

Trying to appease a hawkish appetite on the part of some in this country by erasing our history will not resolve contentious issues, and far from reconciliation, will only serve to deprive citizenry from learning our real (and rich) history, warts and all.

This city abounds with new streets and roads daily being added as it grows. There are many opportunities to add First Nation names, and more to our network of roadways, without erasing our past.

Hoping that you will reconsider the long-term consequences of this proposal, and pull back from it.

Sincerely,

Grant Orchard  
[REDACTED] Hilliard St. W  
Saskatoon, Sk [REDACTED]



## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Sheila Catto- John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 10:56 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Sheila Catto- John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 10:55

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Sheila

**Last Name:** Catto

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** SHEE-lah CAT-toe

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Fairbrother Bay

**Neighbourhood:** [Silverspring](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** City Council, Aug 30th

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** 8.3.2 renaming of John A Macdonald Road

**Comments:**

I support the proposal to change the street name. The consultation process was good, and the new name is beautiful. I believe it reflects our city's values of Reconciliation and striving to build good relationships between non-Indigenous and Indigenous people in Treaty Six Territory and the Homeland of the Métis Nation.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Phyllis Goertz - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 11:17 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Phyllis Goertz - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 11:16

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Phyllis

**Last Name:** Goertz

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] wakabayashi cr

**Neighbourhood:** [Silverwood Heights](#)

**City:** saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** renaming John a Macdonald rd.

**Comments:**

I wish to express my support for renaming this road mayo wahkotowin. it is not that difficult to say or spell. we are learning to say names from many languages today. it is important that we have some roads named using Indigenous languages.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Tomasin Playford - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Tomasin Playford - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 11:40

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Tomasin

**Last Name:** Playford

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** TOM-a-sin PLAY-ford

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Adams Way

**Neighbourhood:** [Silverwood Heights](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Wednesday Council meeting

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** renaming John A. Macdonald Road

**Comments:**

I fully support the renaming of John A. Macdonald Road in Saskatoon to miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road. While I realize I do not live on that street, if I did, I would still fully support the change. What we choose to call things is powerful and reflects our identity back to us. To continue honouring people who were responsible for genocide practices is abhorrent and should not be acceptable - anywhere. Renaming this road is a small step in the reconciliation journey that I am glad the City of Saskatoon is taking.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No



## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Crystal Maslin - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Crystal Maslin - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 12:19

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Crystal

**Last Name:** Maslin

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Galloway Rd

**Neighbourhood:** [Stonebridge](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on?: Renaming John A MacDonald Road**

**Comments:**

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed change of the name of John A. McDonald Road to miyo-wahkotowin Road. I believe that renaming this road would be a significant step towards acknowledging the historical injustices inflicted upon Indigenous communities and promoting reconciliation.

The residential school system is an undeniable dark chapter in our nation's history, leading to immense suffering, and intergenerational trauma for Indigenous peoples. John A. Macdonald, while a prominent figure in Canadian history, was also instrumental in implementing policies that perpetuated the forced assimilation and cultural genocide of Indigenous children. As we strive to build a more inclusive and equitable society, it is essential that we confront this painful past and take meaningful actions towards healing and reconciliation.

Renaming the road that currently bears his name would send a powerful message that we are committed to acknowledging the injustices of the past and working towards a better future. By honouring the experiences and perspectives of Indigenous peoples, we can begin to dismantle the harmful legacy of colonialism and move towards a more just and respectful society.

I commend the efforts of the community and local leaders in advocating for this change. It is heartening to see a growing awareness and willingness to address the systemic issues that have marginalized Indigenous voices for far too long. Changing the name of John A. McDonald Road is an important symbolic step that can contribute to a broader cultural shift towards understanding, empathy, and equality.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider this letter as a strong endorsement for the proposed name change. I believe that by embracing a new name that reflects our commitment to truth, reconciliation, and justice, we can create a more inclusive environment for everyone. Let us honour the resilience and strength of Indigenous communities by taking this step towards acknowledging their history and righting historical wrongs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that your thoughtful consideration will lead to a positive outcome that reflects the values of equality, respect, and unity that our society aspires to uphold.

Sincerely,  
Crystal Maslin

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No**

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Audra Krueger - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1  
**Attachments:** city of saskatoon.docx

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 3:37 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Audra Krueger - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 15:36

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Audra

**Last Name:** Krueger

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Shannon cres

**Neighbourhood:** [Holliston](#)

**City:** saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** Renaming of John A Macdonald

**Comments:**

Audra Krueger

Shannon cres

Saskatoon Sask

Aug 28, 2023

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council,

I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for the renaming of John A. Macdonald Road. This simple and pragmatic act speaks volumes as to the good intentions of Saskatonians as we continue our reconciliation journey.

It is also a powerful message that the name miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road was brought forward by a committee composed of thoughtful citizens from Saskatoon.

I strongly urge you to approve miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road to replace John A. Macdonald Road.

Respectfully,

Audra Krueger

**Attachments:**

- [city of saskatoon.docx](#) 12.64 KB

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

Audra Krueger  
[REDACTED] Shannon cres  
Saskatoon Sask  
[REDACTED]

Aug 28, 2023

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council,

I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for the renaming of John A. Macdonald Road. This simple and pragmatic act speaks volumes as to the good intentions of Saskatonians as we continue our reconciliation journey.

It is also a powerful message that the name miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road was brought forward by a committee composed of thoughtful citizens from Saskatoon.

I strongly urge you to approve miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road to replace John A. Macdonald Road.

Respectfully,

Audra Krueger

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Kathleen Heuer - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 3:38 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Kathleen Heuer - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 15:38

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Kathleen [Kate]

**Last Name:** Heuer

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** Hoyer

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Pinehouse Dr.,

**Neighbourhood:** [River Heights](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** none

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Re-naming of John A MacDonald Road

**Comments:**

I am in support of the Calls to Action the City of Saskatoon is taking and want Mayor and Councillors to know that I support the re-naming of John A. MacDonald Road. While the Cree name being proposed is long, it is also fun to let these syllables roll off the tongue, and of course, it is instructive to learn a few words in Cree as part of reconciliation.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

## Janzen, Heather

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Hailey Pankratz - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:13 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Hailey Pankratz - John A Macdonald Road Renaming - CK 6310-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, August 28, 2023 - 16:13

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Monday, August 28, 2023

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Hailey

**Last Name:** Pankratz

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Langlois Way

**Neighbourhood:** [Stonebridge](#)

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments



**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** The renaming of John A. MacDonald Road to Miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road

**Comments:**

I am writing this letter in support of changing the name of John A. MacDonald Road to Miyo-wâhkôhtowin Road, in the spirit of reconciliation. I want to thank the city council committee that unanimously voted in favour of this change the last time it was brought to the table. I understand you are now facing some backlash from people claiming this name is too complex for the general public. I think the deeper issue here is not the length of the name, as it is almost identical in length to the roads current name, but rather that many people who have experienced privilege their entire lives are reluctant to give that privilege up and they may view steps taken towards reconciliation, and the decentralization of the English language as the beginning of the loss of that privilege. We clearly have a deeper problem here in that many settlers living here in Saskatchewan do not know even five words in an Indigenous language. The problem is not one of complexity, but rather one of people being unwilling to learn.

It is ironic that the new name being put forward, miyo-wâhkôhtowin, means “good relationship” in Cree. We should all be doing more to be in good relationship with one another. This should take precedence over feeling comfortable and attempts to avoid ruffling feathers of those who have sat in positions of privilege for so long, while others struggle to have their voices heard. I truly believe everyone should humble themselves and consider why naming a street in a language that is native to this land, and existed here before any of us were here, is even a debate.

Often times it is not the loud shouting voices that lead us in the direction of justice, but the quiet inner-knowing of what is right and good. All things considered, maybe this would also be a good time to consider how we integrate the teaching of Indigenous Languages into our schools, instead of a time to push against the learning of even a few words. Thank you for considering my words today, and I hope going forward that the spirit of reconciliation continues to lead and be a guiding light for us all, in terms of what is right and fair.

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No