

# Renaming John A. Macdonald Road Spring 2023 Update

## A New Name for the Road

On June 28, 2021, Saskatoon City Council approved beginning the process to rename John A. Macdonald Road, to recognize the ongoing harm in the community experienced by residential schools. The City of Saskatoon (City) is also committed to raising awareness and understanding of residential schools and their ongoing impacts.

A process for renaming the road is now in place and the City is working toward having the new name announced and road signs changed later this year.

We acknowledge that this important work has taken longer than expected and we thank you for your patience.

## Why a New Name is Needed

John A. Macdonald played a significant role in the development of Canada's Indian residential school system. Residential schools took Indigenous children away from their families, cultures and languages to assimilate them - so they would no longer exist as distinct peoples.

Residential schools were responsible for the hunger, neglect, abuse and death of thousands of Indigenous children in Canada. Indigenous families today continue to experience this pain, grief, loss and inter-generational trauma.

## The New Name

The City has been meeting with Indigenous leaders, Residential School Survivors, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and youth; the Saskatoon Intercultural Association; members from the Chinese community; teachers from Wahkohtowin school; and others to recommend a new name for the Road to the City of Saskatoon's Civic Naming Committee. The new name is to reflect the theme of Reconciliation.

## What Happens When the New Name is Approved?

There may be costs associated with the address name change for property owners and residents of John A. Macdonald Road. The City will support property owners and residents in having their address changed. More information on how to access support will be available for Road residents..

## Do I need to do anything right now?

There is no action for residents to take right now as the name of the road has not yet been changed. You can continue to use the same address.

## Contact

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please email Customer Care Centre at [customercare@saskatoon.ca](mailto:customercare@saskatoon.ca) or call **306-975-2476**.



## Timeline

Here is a timeline of what you can expect next:

-  **Summer-Fall 2023:** Learning and education opportunities for Road residents and the community. 
-  **Fall 2023:** Approvals from the Civic Naming Committee, Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services, and City Council recommending the new name followed by a Street Name Change Bylaw.
-  **Fall/Winter 2023:** Street sign and map changes.

For more information, visit the John A. Macdonald Road webpage at [saskatoon.ca/engage/renaming](https://saskatoon.ca/engage/renaming) which will be updated with the latest information.