



Furthering
Reconciliation in
our Community:



Engagement Toolkit

Name the North Commuter Parkway Bridge (NCP)

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Objectives

The purpose of the Engagement Toolkit is to provide facilitators with the information and resources you will need to engage the community in the Naming the North Commuter Parkway Bridge (NCP) process.

We've included background information, talking points and a suggested agenda for your engagement session but feel free to use your discretion and plan your session to suit your audience's needs.

After reading this document, you will be able to run an In-Person Engagement Session to educate the public about the importance of the NCP process and encourage them to participate by submitting a nomination themselves.

Should you have any questions or need clarification on any information contained in this document, please contact **Gilles Dorval** at **engagement@saskatoon.ca**.



Background

In July last year, a report was made to City Council relating to the naming of a major piece of infrastructure, the new North Commuter Parkway Bridge (NCP), in recognition of Aboriginal people's history and contributions.

The Naming of the NCP Bridge supports the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action report, specifically #79: "Participate in a strategy to commemorate Aboriginal People's history and contributions to Canada."

It was also agreed that the process for engaging the community to name the bridge will be community driven, building on the community reconciliation process and that Aboriginal Elders will guide the Aboriginal Cultural and Spiritual processes for the naming process.

Key community members were consulted on the process for engaging the community and the scope of the project, including representatives from the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC), Saskatoon Tribal Council (STC), Central Urban Metis Federation Incorporated (CUMFI) and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN).

Naming the NCP Bridge also supports the City of Saskatoon's (City) Strategic Goal of Quality of Life - the recognition of our built, natural, and cultural heritage. The naming of civic facilities celebrates the history, environment, and outstanding contributions of our diverse community.



Key Messages & Talking Points

Primary

Naming the NCP Bridge is an opportunity to unite our community and celebrate the history and contributions of Aboriginal people in our shared places and spaces.

All members of the community are invited to nominate a name that either acknowledges an Aboriginal historical event or figure, or represents the spirit of community, coming together, or connection.

We're responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action, specifically #79: "Participate in a strategy to commemorate Aboriginal People's history and contributions to Canada."

A number of facilitated engagement opportunities have been planned in October for the general public, including specific sessions for youth, Old Peoples / seniors, and others, to learn more about the project and to submit their nominations in-person. Visit Saskatoon.ca/namethencp for more details.

Since the nomination period opened in July, we have received a good amount of responses from the community. The nomination period will be open until October 31st.

Secondary

It's essential that all members of our diverse community, including First Nation, Métis, and Inuit citizens, can see themselves represented in the naming of our shared public spaces, such as bridges, parks and streets.

Naming the NCP Bridge is a community-led process which supports reconciliation and inclusiveness by acknowledging the shared history of our diverse community and working towards building positive and mutually beneficial relationships.

First Nation and Métis Elders have been consulted throughout the naming process, including guiding the cultural protocol for the naming project and conducting a blessing of the land which took place in May 2017.



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FAQs

How can I get involved?

Complete a nomination form:

- Online at saskatoon.ca/nametheNCP, or
- In-person at a number of public and community events.

What is the criteria for the name of the North Commuter Parkway?

Nominations should meet one or more of the below guidelines:

- Acknowledge an **Aboriginal historical event or figure**, or
- Represent the **spirit of community, coming together, or connection**.

How will the name of the North Commuter Parkway be chosen?

- First Nation and Métis Elders will guide the cultural protocol for the naming project, including the blessing of the land which took place in May 2017.
- Names will be gathered from the community.
- Elders and Survivors will reflect and deliberate on the list of names in order to determine a shortlist of four names.
- The community will be able to watch a short vignette on each of the four names and provide input online or in-person.
- Community feedback will be considered before the final recommendation is made to City Council by CUMFI, STC, OTC, FSIN and the City.

How will the top four nominations be recognized?

- If your submission is one of the top four, you will be recognized on the City's Facebook page and in press release by name.
- If the winning nomination is submitted by more than one person, all submitters will be recognized.

Where can I find additional details about naming the North Commuter Parkway?

- To find out more, visit Saskatoon.ca/nametheNCP or call 306-657-8691.

Why am I being asked to share my ideas for bridge names?

- Naming the NCP is an opportunity to unite our community and province in an act of reconciliation, and for you to see yourself alongside Saskatoon's citizens in our community – in our shared places and spaces.
- The City strives to achieve a good quality of life for all Saskatoon residents. The naming of civic infrastructure celebrates the history, environment, and outstanding contributions of our diverse community.
- We encourage residents of Saskatoon to take this opportunity to learn more about the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, the legacy of Indian Residential Schools, and to correct misinformation and stereotypes.



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NORTH COMMUTER PARKWAY PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What is the North Commuter Parkway Project?

The North Commuter Parkway is part of the City of Saskatoon's Bridging to Tomorrow initiative.

The Bridging to Tomorrow initiative also includes replacement of the Traffic Bridge. Both bridges and the surrounding road infrastructure will provide significant benefits to the citizens of Saskatoon and the province.

When will the North Commuter Parkway be complete?

Construction of the North Commuter Parkway is slated for completion in October of 2018.

How will the North Commuter Parkway help the citizens of Saskatoon?

The North Commuter Parkway will link the Marquis Industrial area with Saskatoon's northeast residential developments.

The Parkway will:

- Help support the transportation needs of citizens as the City grows;
- Reduce commuter traffic on existing bridges, particularly Circle Drive North Bridge;
- Add another lower speed commuter transportation option;
- Address traffic congestion, reduce intersection delays and shorten travel times in key areas of the City;
- Provide effective and efficient infrastructure integral to jobs, growth and prosperity; and,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Suggested Agenda

1. *Introduction & Overview*

After welcoming participants and introducing yourself, provide handouts and run through the agenda.

2. *Presentation*

Give a short presentation on the project with strong emphasis on explaining the importance of this project and how it responds to the TRC's Calls to Action.

OPTIONAL: If you have access to a display and internet connection, you may play a short video which was aired on TV about the project (see Handouts & Materials section).

3. *Nomination Process*

Explain criteria for naming and walk through the nomination process and the deadline for nominations.

4. *Q&A*

This is an opportunity for participants to ask any questions they may have. If you don't know the answer, please make a note of it and contact **Gilles Dorval** at **engagement@saskatoon.ca** for clarification after the session.



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Handouts & Materials

1. [Information Sheet \(A4\)](#) – one page providing information on the project and how to nominate.
2. [Postcard handout](#) – condensed information on the project and how to nominate.
3. [Hardcopy nomination forms](#)
4. YouTube video – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vldfqApEANM>



Educational Resources

Learn more about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC)

- Reports & Findings: <http://nctr.ca/reports.php>
- TRC's Calls to Action: <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=905>

More links and resources are available on www.saskatoon.ca/ncpresources