



# DRYDEN

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **City of Dryden To Rename Colonization Avenue**

DRYDEN, ON – April 26, 2021 – At the Dryden City Council meeting held tonight, elected officials unanimously passed a municipal by-law renaming Colonization Avenue to Boozhoo Avenue (formerly Colonization Avenue North) and to Memorial Avenue (formerly Colonization Avenue South).

The renaming of Dryden's Colonization Avenue was a recommendation put forward to City Council by the Working Circle in January of 2021. The Working Circle, being a Committee of Council, is charged with developing recommendations for City Council that support fostering positive relationships with Indigenous peoples. Currently, five indigenous community members and five City officials make up the ten member Working Circle.

The public consultation period of 60 days required by the City's Municipal Asset Naming Policy, produced over 400 suggested street name submissions. City Council requested that Working Circle members review all submitted names and submit to Council their recommended short list of recommended street names.

Mayor Greg Wilson commented, "We all have a role in positively influencing the relationships of everyone residing in our part of Northwestern Ontario and this street name change is symbolic of our mutual desire to live in peace and harmony."

"I am proud of the support and encouragement of the overwhelming majority of Dryden residents in this change and I believe that support is reflected in the decision of Council tonight. Dryden is moving forward by showing that it is never too late to do the right thing," stated Councillor and Working Circle Co-Chair Shayne MacKinnon.

A renaming ceremony will be held on June 21<sup>st</sup> to coincide with National Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations.

For more information on the Colonization Avenue renaming please visit [www.dryden.ca/workingcircle](http://www.dryden.ca/workingcircle).

### **Media Contact**

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