

 DRYDEN The Corporation of The City of Dryden	STAFF REPORT	For Administration Use Only: Meeting Date: Open [X] Closed [] Approved for Agenda: [] Report No.
Date Submitted:	January 2, 2021	
Title:	Municipal Street Renaming Application	
Prepared by:	Roger Nesbitt, CAO	
Department:	Administration	

Recommendation:

That Council accept the municipal Street Naming application submitted by the Working Circle, an advisory committee to council, and;

That Council direct municipal staff to issue Public Notice stating City Council’s intention to rename Colonization Avenue and seek public input for a period of 60 days, after which City Council will consider the proposed names, and;

That Council direct the Working Circle to encourage the public, through various means, to submit suggestions for street names during the 60 day Public Notice period, at the end of which the Working Circle will report back to City Council and provide three street names for consideration by City Council.

Background:

The City of Dryden Council adopted the Municipal Asset Naming policy in September of 2020 to provide a fair, consistent and efficient process while respecting the important need for public consultation and legislative approvals with respect to the naming, renaming or dedication of Municipal Assets such as streets, parks and facilities, as well as the major elements of such municipal assets.

Council first approved the formation of the Working Circle in July 2020, the first of its kind in Dryden. The group has a critical role in helping the City achieve the goals of

our the municipal Strategic Plan, which includes our intention to continue fostering positive relationships with Indigenous peoples.

Working Circle members include:

Indigenous members	City Council and Staff members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheryl Edwards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Norm Bush
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Kooshet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Shayne MacKinnon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil McLeod 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Michelle Price
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ted Mitchell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAO Roger Nesbitt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lloyd Napish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR Manager Jennifer Peekhaus

Discussion:

The City of Dryden, through the Municipal Asset Naming policy, has received application from the Working Circle requesting Council to consider changing the name of Colonization Avenue. Through the application process, the Working Circle has submitted their rationale for the street renaming application. The pamphlet titled “Time for Change”, which is attached to this report, provides clarity for Council regarding the Working Circle’s recommendation and rationale for their recommendation. Two excerpts from the pamphlet read;

“Colonization means - the action or process of settling among and establishing control over the indigenous people of an area and appropriating a place for one’s own use.”

“A street name should be something we all take pride in, as we do our greater community. For too many, Colonization Ave is a daily reminder of a dark stain in Canadian history and of past injustices that stand in the way of making all people feel like an important part of the fabric of our community.”

These short excerpts help to explain why many feel that using the term “Colonization” in a municipal asset name is not appropriate and does not represent the intent of municipal asset naming.

The requirements of the Municipal Asset Naming policy also state that for a street renaming application to be considered by Council, the applicant must provide documented support, including but not limited to petitions and support letters, from at least 75 percent (75%) of property owners that abut the street. However, the policy also states, at the discretion of municipal staff, this requirement may be waived, and the application be presented directly to Council. Based on the nature of this application and the rationale provided by the Working Circle, staff have chosen to waive this

requirement and present the application to Council for consideration. All other application requirements have been met.

If Council accepts the proposed street renaming application and provides direction to staff, the City will provide Public Notice of its intention to rename Colonization Avenue and seek public input for a period of sixty days. Following the Public Notice period, City Council shall consider the submitted input and proposed street names.

As outlined in the report's recommendation section, the Working Circle is asking Council for approval to conduct a public education campaign that includes encouraging residents to propose new street names that could be considered by Council. The Working Circle is proposing that they short list the submitted names and present to Council for consideration.

Attachments (Reference Material):

Street Renaming Application – Colonization Ave
Time for Change Brochure
Colonization Ave Map
Letter of Authorization from Chief Building Official