

## How do we change a name

The Municipal Asset Naming Policy lays out a framework for changing a street name. It states a name should "portray a strong positive image of the City of Dryden" and not be "discriminatory or derogatory".

The Working Circle has examined the policy and will make an application to the City for a name change. If City Council approves the application, the City will provide Public Consultation of its intention to rename an existing street, allowing sixty (60) days for Public Notice, after which Council will make a decision on renaming Colonization Avenue. If approved, Council will then decide on a new name from those proposed.

It is our hope that everyone becomes involved with the consultation process and takes part in either supporting a name that has been proposed or suggesting a new name.

## How can I become involved

To start, it is important that we educate ourselves on the issue. We also need to recognize the impact that the current name has on Indigenous People. Next, we encourage you to talk about the issue with family and friends. Finally, we encourage you to participate in the naming contest and consultation.

## What would a name change mean for those living on Colonization

If the name of Colonization Avenue is changed, it would mean that residents would need to change their addresses by contacting a number of services including; Services Ontario (to change their Drivers, License, Health Card, Outdoors Card and Vehicle Registration), Canada Revenue Agency, Canada Pension Plan, Utilities (such as gas, hydro, phone, internet), Banks and Insurance Company.

A checklist will be created and provided to help guide residents through the process of who to contact. Some people have volunteered to help answer questions, but many service providers will only discuss address change with the resident/account holder.



## Contact the City of Dryden

30 Van Horne Avenue,  
Dryden, Ontario P8N 2A7,  
Phone: (807) 223-1147  
<https://www.dryden.ca/>

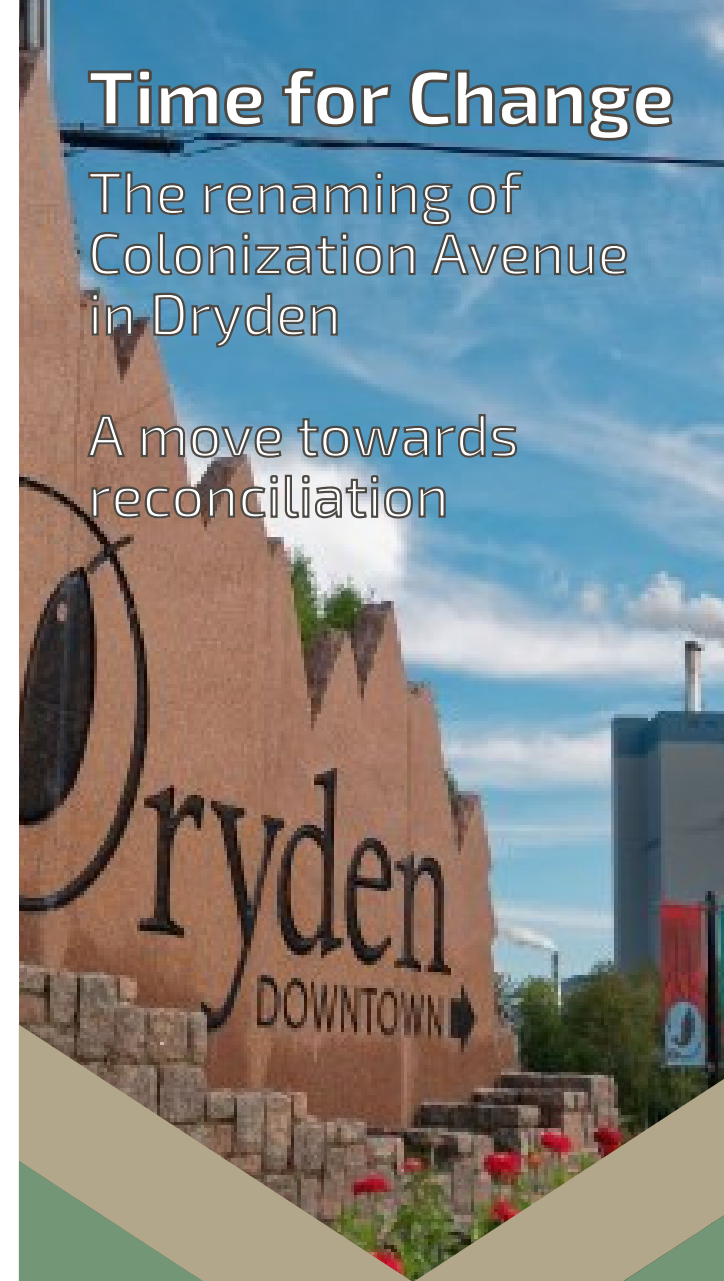
## Contact the Working Circle

E-mail: [workingcircle@dryden.ca](mailto:workingcircle@dryden.ca)  
<https://www.dryden.ca/workingcircle>

# Time for Change

The renaming of  
Colonization Avenue  
in Dryden

A move towards  
reconciliation





"Getting to the truth was hard, but getting to reconciliation will be harder."

"Reconciliation requires a new vision, based on a commitment to mutual respect"

from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

## It's time for change

The City of Dryden is a dynamic, diverse and inclusive community. Dryden has always prided itself as a leader throughout the region, and as a welcoming travel destination. Although change can be difficult, it is necessary for our continued growth and improvement.

## Why should I care

Changing a name may seem trivial but it sends the message that we will not tolerate racism while encouraging us to educate ourselves on the history of colonization. It shows people that we're capable of listening to each other and that we are committed to building stronger relationships.

## What is in a name

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."

Colonization Avenue was named a long time ago as part of establishing Dryden as a community. It is a hurtful reminder of the negative effects of colonization to many Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Peoples who visit or live in and around our community. These negative effects include the legacy of residential schools and segregation.

Colonization Avenue/Road played a significant role in the development of Dryden as we know it today. It provided access to Wainwright Township to the North and Van Horne Township to the South. If not the first road in Dryden, it was one of the first roads in Dryden, allowing access to resources and the settlement or colonization to happen.

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.

## Why make a change now

Renaming a street is an action that moves us closer to reconciliation. There is no better time to work towards reconciliation and right an injustice than now. Movements like "Idle No More" and "Black Lives Matter" have demonstrated that people are tired of pain and trauma and want to move forward. These movements have been a reminder that we all need to recognize prejudices and come together to build stronger relationships.

## What will the new name be

The new name needs to come from the community. The name should not divide us but work to bring us closer together as a community by recognizing and honouring our diversity.

It is our hope that the name will come out of a naming contest through consultation. We want all people to become involved. We will share some potential names that have been proposed, but encourage everyone to pick the name they like or offer suggestions of a new name to consider.