

NEWS RELEASE

Regina, April 7, 2021 News Release

City Invites Community Conversation on Macdonald Legacy

The City of Regina invites you to tell your story.

Today, the City launches an online space on <u>Be Heard Regina</u> for community conversation on the legacy of Sir John A. Macdonald. The intent is to foster understanding and telling a complete story of Macdonald's legacy, both his contributions to Canada as prime minister and founder of Confederation as well as the harmful impact his policies have had on Indigenous peoples and other ethno-cultural communities.

"Telling the full story of Macdonald's legacy and supporting Regina residents in increased understanding is an important part of the City's responsibilities as an institution engaged in Truth and Reconciliation," says Mayor Sandra Masters. "As we acknowledge the scars of our community's past and examine systemic issues still present in our society today, having honest and respectful dialogue enables us to be more informed and empathetic citizens."

Residents impacted by Macdonald's legacy are encouraged to visit <u>beheard.regina.ca</u> to share their own stories, the stories of their families or to deepen their understanding of Canada's past. Through this, we hope to relearn a more inclusive history and the experiences of Regina's people.

These conversations follow City Council's decision on March 31 to approve temporary relocation of the John A. Macdonald statue from Victoria Park. The statue will be moved into storage during this period of continued public consultation.

Discussions are ongoing with potential partners to determine an appropriate new location for the statue. A follow-up report to Council recommending the new location is to be delivered by Q1 2022 or earlier.

The City will begin preparing for relocation of the statue immediately, and it is likely to commence within a month's time. Administration will ensure that the statue is transported safely and securely into storage in accordance with civic art collections standards. A public art collection curator will be on site to ensure due care and attention.

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