Winnipeg | Indigenous Relations
Relations avec les Autochtones

JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION
LES CHEMINS DE LA RÉCONCILIATION

WELCOMING WINNIPEG – Request Summary

NOTE: Request summaries are compiled by Indigenous Relations employees to ensure that identifiable, or potentially identifiable, third-party personal information or information of a sensitive nature is excluded from what is made publicly available. Indigenous Relations permits viewing of the full original submission by appointment through 311.

Request ID: 2022-010

Name of Request: Renaming Appletree-Bridgeland Drive North Park to Emeka Nnadi Park

Address: Appletree Crescent at Bridgeland Drive North

Demonstrated Community Support:

- Petition submitted: No. Due to COVID due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and physical distancing precautions, the City has temporarily suspended this requirement.
- Letters of support provided: *One letter of support provided.*

Project Details:



I am submitting this proposal to request the naming of the Appletree-Bridgeland Drive North Park as Emeka Nnadi Park. Emeka is a Nigerian immigrant who came to Canada after his first degree in architecture from the Enugu State University of Technology,

Nigeria. He earned a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Manitoba.

As a member of the BIPOC community, Emeka continues to maintain positive attitudes and diligence in overcoming all forms of barriers and discrimination faced by Indigenous peoples and other minority groups. Emeka continues to contribute meaningfully to our communities through designing, planning, and creating sustainable urban cities with more green infrastructure, family friendliness, and healthy living. He mentors young Canadians, inspiring them to be hardworking, diligent, and good ambassadors. Emeka is an inspirational speaker who has appeared in TED Talks to tell his stories of his progression trajectories.

For over 18 years, the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation has engaged Emeka Nnadi and his firm, the Nadi Group, as its exclusive advocate for architecture, lead for urban design and landscape architecture and consultant for best practice development for the Bridgwater Neighbourhoods. In 2006, Emeka assisted with developing the area structure plan that would eventually transform 1400 acres of provincially owned farmland into the town centre, Bridgwater Forest, Bridgwater Lakes, and Bridgwater Trails. The Bridgwater Neighbourhoods can be said to be among the best neighbourhoods in Canada. The province relied on Emeka’s expertise to guide the urban and landscape architecture for its precedent-setting development. The client envisioned a complete community that combined traditional architecture with forward-thinking livability.

The response to this development incorporated New Urbanism principles within the design and planning to create sustainable, human-scaled places where people can live healthy and happy lives. These principles come alive in the town centre, where broad sidewalks lead to a central plaza surrounded by outdoor seating; between the communities, where parks promote accessible play structures and winding trails; and by the unique housing products, where visitable and inclusive features allow residents to gracefully age in place. Bridgwater’s master plan emphasizes holistic community design where residents can live, work and play.

How does this renaming contribute to a ‘Welcoming Winnipeg’, as defined in the policy and what kind of evidence/research can be provided to support this state

Despite the amazing and aesthetic beauty embedded in healthy living designs, which Emeka Nnadi brought into the architectural design of the Bridgwater neighbourhoods, there is no street or park named after him in recognition to date. On the other hand, the Architect who designed the South Pointe has a street named after him in recognition. Giving this same recognition to Emeka Nnadi will motivate the younger generations of the BIPOC community to devote themselves to diligent work and best practices. It will

also go a long way to demonstrate that our city and province are committed to improving diversity and inclusion in our society while eliminating every form of discrimination and racism.

Does this site have historical significance to the Indigenous community? Research Support:

I completely recognize that I live and work in the homeland of the Anishinaabeg, Ininew, Anishininew, Dakota, Inuit, Dene, and Metis people. I acknowledge the wrongs and damages of the past, and present, to which the original owners of this land we call our home are subjected. I am sincerely committed to working in a sustainable and meaningful partnership with the Native people in reducing and eliminating every form of marginalization and inequity. I desire to contribute to fostering a friendly community that promotes individual and community growth and achieving personal goals.

If this application is not supported, what would the negative impact on the community be? (If applicable)

It will not align with the commitment to reduce discrimination and marginalization of the BIPOC community. It will also not motivate young immigrants to aspire to work hard instead of engaging in some social misconducts.

Any additional information the applicant would like the CCM to consider in making their recommendation.

This gesture will really motivate AfriCans in Winnipeg South, other Africans living in other parts of the city and also other immigrant communities who will realize that every positive contribution they make in building a progressive and prosperous city will be recognized and appreciated.