Welcoming Winnipeg – Creating Marker: Bunibonibee Cree Nation Plane Crash

Feedback Summary

March 2024

Welcoming Winnipeg

The Welcoming Winnipeg initiative is just one aspect of the reconciliation process the City of Winnipeg is committed to, and will help ensure that the contributions, experiences, and perspectives of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit are reflected truthfully in our stories, historical markers, and place names.

To date, this has included Council passing a motion to adopt the Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History Policy. This policy was developed to guide the City in making decisions regarding requests to create new, add to or remove/rename historical markers and place names and resolve the absence of Indigenous perspectives, experiences and contributions in the stories remembered and commemorated.

This new process includes posting change requests on the City of Winnipeg website for two weeks, to provide the opportunity for residents to provide feedback by:

- Completing a short online survey;
- Calling 204-986-4549 and leaving a voice message;
- Registering to appear as a delegation before the Committee of Community Members.

Background

All City requests to create new historical markers now go through the Welcoming Winnipeg process which is about ensuring a proactive lens of balance, inclusion and Indigenous perspectives is used when making changes to the City's historical markers and place names.

A request was submitted to create a new historical marker. This marker would be located at Yellow Ribbon Greenway Trail near Linwood Street and Silver Avenue in the St. James ward. Details of the request can be found here.

Residents were invited to provide feedback from February 8, 2024 to February 22, 2024.

Following the collection of feedback, input was provided to the Committee of Community Members to make a recommendation for Council's consideration.

Promotion

Opportunities to provide input on the new marker were promoted using the following methods:

- City of Winnipeg website – posted February 8, 2024
- Welcoming Winnipeg e-mail distribution list with over 230 recipients – February 9, 2024
- City of Winnipeg Facebook post with 39,000 followers – February 18, 2024
- City of Winnipeg X (formerly Twitter) post with 125,900 followers – February 18, 2024
- City of Winnipeg Instagram story with 4,980 followers – February 18, 2024
- Internal City of Winnipeg e-mail distribution list – February 20, 2024

What We Heard

25 responses were received through the online survey. 0 voice messages were received.

In response to the question: **Do you think the Committee of Community Members should support this request?**

- 16 respondents said yes
- 8 respondents said no
- 1 respondent said undecided

Examples of reasons identified for not supporting the change were:

"There are other memorials for this crash. Sets a precedent that will be difficult to maintain."

Examples of reasons identified for supporting the change were:

"This is a powerful and timely action - it ought to have been done earlier considering it is Manitoba's worst aviation crash, and that today is the first I am hearing about this, and I have lived in Winnipeg almost 35 years. It sends a strong message of reconciliation in action; of active acknowledgement of past wrongs/ omissions and correcting those."

To learn more about Welcoming Winnipeg please visit winnipeg.ca/WelcomingWinnipeg

Winnipeg

How Input was Considered

Below is a summary of changes that have been made, based on input.

What We Heard	How It Was Considered
Is this an Indigenous led request?	The community, along with families of the victims have been involved in consultation and approval of the project.
A great initiative to support reconciliation in our city and bring attention to the victims and their communities.	The new commemorative site and monument will ensure that the names of the victims and the devastating impacts of residential schools are remembered as part of Winnipeg's collective history.