

# WELCOMING WINNIPEG: RECONCILING OUR HISTORY

## Phase 1 Public Engagement Summary

July 2019

### Background

In July 2010, the Canadian, Provincial and Municipal government parties signed the Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC) to work together and better align resources to improve socio-economic outcomes for the Indigenous peoples in Winnipeg and to improve the capacity of Indigenous organizations to carry-out their mandates.

The three parties collaborated on the development of priority areas in which to achieve these goals and from this Welcoming Winnipeg were created. Dialogue across the country on shared history in various cities specific to markers, plaques and names prompted action in Winnipeg and is one aspect of the Welcoming Winnipeg initiative.

### Engagement

The engagement aspect of the Welcoming Winnipeg focuses on the development of a process and policy to guide how the city recognizes and commemorates various historical people and events, place names, plaques, signs, and street names. All promotion and engagement materials were supported in both French and English.

### Promotion

Public engagement opportunities were promoted using the following methods (see Appendix A for examples):

- City of Winnipeg website: Launched January 29, 2019;
- News release: January 29, 2019;
- Eight Facebook and Twitter posts: January 29 – March 17, 2019;

- City of Winnipeg public engagement newsletter: January 31, February 2 and 28, March 14, 2019;
- Facebook advertisement: January 29 – February 28, 2019;
- Promotional stickers placed at 12 historic sites;
- Project update sent to email notification list: January 31 (160 recipients) and February 25, 2019 (280 recipients);
- Introductory video shared on project website and social media;
- Posters placed in all branches of the Winnipeg Public Library.

### Key Feedback

- The community feels strongly about all the options to create new, to add to, and to remove various historical markers and place names.
- Workshop participants noted that change in process must come from Indigenous peoples on how they want to be recognized.
- Survey participants identified as: non-Indigenous (72.91%); Métis (10.58%); preferred not to answer (7.61%); Ojibway/ Anishinaabe (3.71%); Other (3.15%); Cree (1.3%); Dene (0.37%); Inuit (0.19%), and; Dakota (0.19%).
- Stakeholder and workshop participants noted more could be done to acknowledge Rooster Town, Indigenous technological innovation (canoe, snowshoes, etc.), and the accomplishments of Indigenous women.
- Mapping activities in-person and online revealed areas where participants feel they belong and do not belong.

Date	Activity	Details
January 29 - March 19, 2019	Online survey and mapping tool	Completed by 709 (694 English surveys, 15 French surveys).
February 7 & February 28, 2019	In-person story recordings	Drop-in sessions held at the ideaMill within the Millennium Library
January 29 - March 19, 2019	Digital story collection	15 citizens shared their story an additional citizen used the dedicated phone line to submit their story.
February 14 and March 20, 2019	Stakeholder meetings	Invitations were shared with 80 (+) organizations though the Winnipeg Indigenous Executive Circle.
March 13, 2019	Expert panel and public workshop	The event was attended by 60 members of the public.

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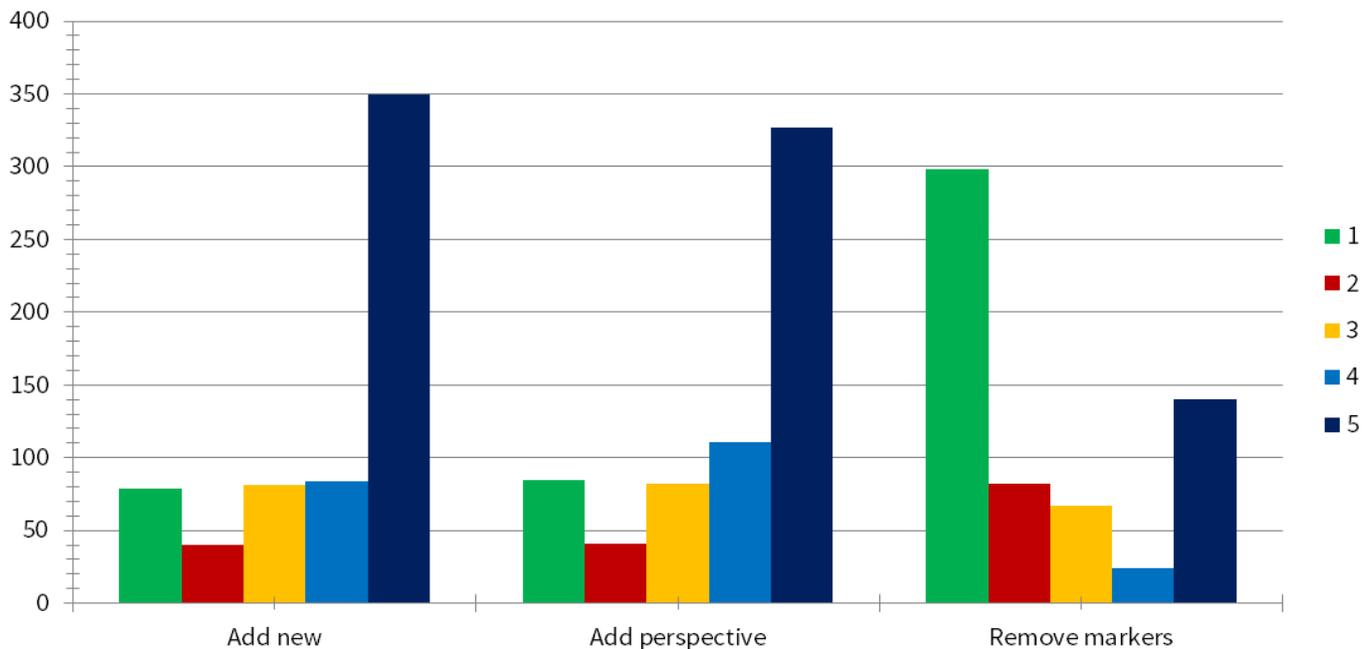
July 2019

What We Heard	How It Was Considered
Indigenous perspectives and voices should be included in the process of any change to historic recognition and/or acknowledgement.	The proposed process includes a committee of community members. Feedback on the approach towards forming the committee will be collected in phase 2.
Indigenous involvement was also the top response when asked how it is decided and who decides which Indigenous language is used in any process for naming streets, sites or places. Providing opportunities for ongoing input was also important to participants.	Community voices are important to the proposed process, and the opportunity for public input will be included in the process. Feedback on where public feedback would fit best will be collected in phase 2.
Limited support for removing historical markers (average rating of 2.38 out of 5). Establishing new markers was the preferred method (average ranking 3.924 out of 5) and adding perspective had an average ranking 3.858 out of 5.	The criteria for considering removal of historical markers will require careful thought. Detailed feedback on criteria will be collected in phase 2.

Top places Winnipeggers expect to see an Indigenous acknowledgement in Winnipeg:

-  The Forks
-  City buildings and property
-  Street signage
-  Everywhere
-  Parks and natural spaces

Historical Marker Option Ratings



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### Next Steps

Using the feedback received the project team developed a draft nomination process to create new, to add to, and to remove various historical markers and place names. In phase 2, the community's feedback will be gathered to collect input on a proposed nomination process and criteria for evaluation to guide how we move forward in reconciling our City's history. A final report and recommended policy and public engagement report will be prepared for Council review in fall 2019.

### Appendices can be found in a separate document, found on the Documents tab.

Appendix A – Promotional materials

Appendix B – Stakeholder meeting notes

Appendix C – Survey results

Appendix D – Workshop results