

African Canadian Federation of London & Area



Fédération Africaine-Canadienne de London et ses Environs

September 13, 2020

Chair and Members
Civic Work Committee
London City Council

Re: Street Renaming Support from ACFOLA

Dear Committee.

Recent and ongoing events in the United States of America on the aftermath of the death of George Floyd have galvanized all concerned citizens to give their support to Black Lives Matter activities and advocacy from all races and cultures around the world, London Ontario included. The ongoing support has also re-awakened a positive conversation here in London Ontario for all the stakeholders to correct some wrongs of the past against black and indigenous people, and at forefront now are the activities against "Anti-black racism", the goodwill of the London City Council is one of them.

African Canadian Federation of London and Area (ACFOLA), a non-for-profit organization which represent peoples of African ancestry (predominantly black), would like to add its voice of support and advocacy for this noble cause in favor of humanity. ACFOLA's specific support goes to the work of Councilor Pelozo on comprehensive policy which will allow the renaming of streets that bring back the ugly face of the past which treated black people inhumanely. We are aware of a particular petition by a London resident, Lyla Wheeler, to rename Plantation Rd. ACFOLA definitely supports the renaming of the road in question due to reasons already explained above.

In conclusion, ACFOLA as a voice of multiracial communities and individuals of African origin in London and Area is giving its support to this mutually beneficial ongoing conversation for a positive change. We strive to work in partnership and collaboration with the city of London for a meaningful integration of our members and to be equal contributors to the development of London Municipality.

Sincerely,

John Kok

John Kok, MD, MPH
President, ACFOLA Board of Directors

AFRICAN CANADIAN FEDERATION OF LONDON & AREA (ACFOLA)

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