

January 31, 2014

Chair and Members  
Executive Committee  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

## RENAMING UNION STATION TO SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD STATION

There is no greater Canadian than our founding father and first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald. As the bicentennial of his birth approaches, the City of Toronto has a unique opportunity to recognize his contribution to our country.

Sir John A. Macdonald's contributions are numerous. His greatest achievement was having the vision to unite our country through Confederation. He was the architect of the National Policy, he was an early supporter of Women's Suffrage and an advocate of voting rights for Aboriginal peoples. At the time of his death in 1891, Sir John A. Macdonald had created one nation united under one government which valued consensus and worked towards a common goal.

One of his greatest accomplishments was the creation of the Canadian Pacific Railway. This railway served as an important link from coast to coast, and played a significant role in uniting the country in the context of rejecting the manifest destiny of the United States.

In the spirit of recognizing this Canadian giant, I am proposing that the City of Toronto consider renaming Union Station after Sir John A. Macdonald. His association with nation building and Canada is clear and unassailable. His links to railways is clear. Furthermore, given the current reconstruction of Union Station and its rebirth, the timing could not be better.

### RECOMMENDATION:

1. The City Manager be requested to report on the renaming of Union Station to Sir John A. Macdonald Station on or before the July meeting of Executive Committee, it will give the public the opportunity to make their deputations on this matter.
2. The committee known as the Toronto Friends of Sir John A. Macdonald be consulted in the preparation of this report.
3. Staff be Directed to seek public input from appropriate groups and individuals in the preparation of this report.

Sincerely yours,



Denzil Minnan-Wong  
Ward 34 – Don Valley East

