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8016 – 163st, Edmonton, Alberta • 780-977-5746 • [brent@brentoliver.com](mailto:brent@brentoliver.com)

*Aug 14, 2023*

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Oliver Community League Name Change – Letter of Support**

On behalf of myself and the Oliver family, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative.

I was supportive of the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups - including myself and the Oliver family. I fully support the proposed new community league name, Wihkwêntôwin, translating to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part. My family's name has been used far too long in a community so diverse, and I look forward to this transition.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BO' followed by a flourish.

**Brent Oliver**

Director - BOP Management & Consulting  
Producer - Winterruption YEG festival



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August 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change**

On behalf of Oliver School, please accept this letter as recognition for the effort and work that went into Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood.

Oliver School has had the opportunity to be part of the process that was undertaken to engage the community, and we are excited to learn of the proposed new community league name, *Wihkwêntôwin*, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

We acknowledge this new name can help move the community forward and build a better future and is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Oliver Community League for including us in their 'Uncover Oliver' project in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens. We are honoured to be part of their circle of friends.

Thank you,

*Sheelagh Brown*

Sheelagh Brown  
Principal  
Oliver School



To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Oliver Community League Name Change – Letter of Support**

On behalf of Alder Academy Early Learning Society, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighborhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a not for profit community service in the area.

I support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

**Suzanne MacLean**

Suzanne MacLean  
Executive Director  
Alder Academy early learning Society

August 14, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

As the Edmonton Public School Board Trustee for Ward D, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as an Edmonontonian, a parent and as an elected school board Trustee in the area.

I support and witnessed the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'. This is a fitting name for this vibrant community, the people who call it home and it is one step towards reconciliation.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future for families and children. I commend the Oliver Community League Board for their leadership and the way in which this name was selected.

In conclusion, I fully endorse the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee.

Thank you,



Trisha Estabrooks  
Trustee Ward D  
Edmonton Public School Board



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
ALBERTA

August 11, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the Oliver Community League (OCL) as they seek to rename the Oliver neighbourhood.

As both an elected representative of the community for 8 years and a resident for 6, I have listened to and participated in many discussions about the challenging legacy of Frank Oliver and have been in support of finding a new name. I recognize that this is not an easy process to navigate and I have appreciated the leadership and thoughtfulness of the OCL as they have taken it on.

Their engagement throughout - with our community and with representatives of those impacted by the legacy of Mr. Oliver - has been respectful and thorough including their consultation with a renaming circle of diverse Elders from various communities. And I fully support their proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

As our province continues to grow, in numbers and diversity, I truly believe we can and should make room to recognize and celebrate that growth. Wîhkwêntôwin is a name that recognizes both the roots of this land and the best of what we aspire to as Edmontonians and Albertans as we continue to welcome new neighbors from across the province and around the world.

So I'm proud to enthusiastically support the OCL's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they, as part of our collective journey of reconciliation, seek to change the name of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Shepherd'.

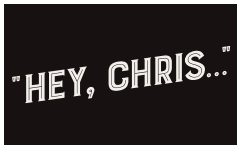
David Shepherd  
MLA, Edmonton-City Centre

LETTER OF SUPPORT  
Uncover Oliver Project (Renaming Oliver neighborhood)

I am Michael Phair and have been a resident of Oliver for nearly 40 years—Oliver is a neighborhood that is my home and a place that I find quite wonderful and unique. I also had the pleasure of representing Oliver as a member of Edmonton City Council from 1992-2007.

I know that the Oliver Community League some years ago took on the very challenging and needed initiative in finding a more suitable and appropriate name for the community. I applaud their careful and thoughtful work on behalf of the community and am pleased to support their recommendation.

Michael Phair  
Michaelphair@shaw.ca  
780-426-1516  
August 14, 2023



August 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a long-time resident in the area and a business-owner that frequently does work in the area represented by the Oliver Community League.

I support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'. I do not believe this name change will erase or invalidate the rich history of this community, as it once had a different name prior to being name Oliver. This is just another step in the of the evolution of building a strong community for every resident through understanding and inclusion.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part. I believe that this name change will not only more accurately reflect the spirit of this community, but create a productive conversation within the community, and serve as best practice for how other communities should approach similar matters surrounding our naming conventions.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

Christopher Henderson

16-Year Resident of the Oliver neighborhood

Partner & Chief Strategist, Y Station Communications & Research

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

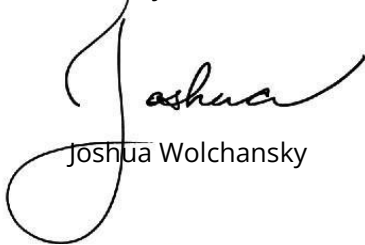
Please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a resident in the area.

I support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, *Wîhkwêntôwin*, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then loops back under the name.

Joshua Wolchansky



To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver-Community League (OCL) Name Change** – Letter of Support

Please accept this letter of support for the ~~Oliver~~ Community League's application to rename the neighbourhood. I am a nēhiyaw person who has lived in amiskwaciwâskahikan on Treaty Six Territory for over 10 years and have called this neighbourhood my home for 3 years. I am pleased to support this initiative as a resident in the area.

As a member of mihtatakaw sîpîy (Driftpile Cree Nation) in Treaty 8 Territory, I've learned how important our Elders and Knowledge Keepers are in shaping our world and guiding us collectively. Their understanding of our community, language, culture and ceremony are integral to our wellbeing. Knowing that Elders and Knowledge Keepers were engaged meaningfully to choose the new name for the neighbourhood acknowledges these ways of being as legitimate and restores agency in our community's cultural leaders. I fully support the proposed new community league name, wîhkwêntôwin, and hope processes led by Elders and Knowledge Keepers, like this and the Ward Renaming, become the established way of working.

The City of Edmonton and the OCL have a responsibility to uplift marginalized and Indigenous voices that have been violently exploited and removed from the territory. This name change is essential in addressing historical injustices perpetuated by Frank Oliver, whose legacy included the perpetuation of racist propaganda, developing legislation that sought to restrict Black people from entering the country, forcibly removing First Nations people from their reserves, and intentionally exploiting Indigenous people broadly of their lands for personal gain.

These actions are not reflective of the future I see for this neighbourhood, nor is it a legacy I think should be celebrated in Edmonton. This name change is the first of many steps necessary to meaningfully and adequately address historic injustices, and is the least the City of Edmonton could do. It is an honour and a privilege to receive the gift of a name, and I trust that it would be treated as such.

As part of the City of Edmonton's own commitments in the Indigenous Framework Final Report, this name change should be approved due to its following commitments:

- **Eliminating systemic racism and discrimination that Indigenous Peoples face.** As someone living in this neighbourhood, I am constantly faced with the violent history of Frank Oliver.
- **Identify and implement ways to make City spaces welcoming and safe for Indigenous Peoples and ensure they can see themselves reflected in those spaces.** Removing figureheads that perpetuated harm, and replacing them with nēhiyawêwin and the core teaching of friendship centres our ways and reflects a more welcoming community.

In conclusion, I fully support the ~~Oliver~~ Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to the calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league addressing historical injustices by removing the name Frank Oliver.

aiy hiy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Matt Ward', written over a horizontal line.

Matt Ward (he/they)



Hunter & Jacquelyn Cardinal  
8814 95 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB  
T6C 1Z1

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Naheyawin, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. We are pleased to support this initiative as Indigenous Edmontonians with deep roots in this pehonan - an ancient gathering place of many since time immemorial.

We fully support and praise the thorough process undertaken to facilitate this critical conversation with many community voices and the diverse Elders & Knowledge Keepers on the renaming circle. Furthermore, we celebrate and cherish the proposed new community league name, Wihkwêntôwin, meaning Circle of Friends.

This name captures the spirit of this community and reminds us why so many call Edmonton their home. It is a name reflecting those who continue to carry forward the long tradition of welcoming and making space for others - and we praise the OCL Board, which has taken this responsibility so seriously.

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee as they seek to change the name of the community league. We both believe this name, the process to uncover it, and the care of those bringing this forward to be an incredible step towards Reconciliation on the longer journey of being Treaty relatives - Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples living in peace, understanding, and friendship.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Hunter at [hunter@naheyawin.ca](mailto:hunter@naheyawin.ca) or call 780-318-2696.

kinanâskomitin/thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Cardinal".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Cardinal".

Hunter Cardinal  
Founder & Director of Story  
[hunter@naheyawin.ca](mailto:hunter@naheyawin.ca)

Jacquelyn Cardinal  
Founder & CEO  
[jacquelyn@naheyawin.ca](mailto:jacquelyn@naheyawin.ca)

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

On behalf of Kind Ice Cream, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a business in the area.

I support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, *Wíhkwêntôwin*, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Bhar', with a small dot above the 'i'.

Nicole Bhar  
Owner, Kind Ice Cream



**CITY OF EDMONTON**

**COUNCILLOR ANNE STEVENSON**

WARD O-day'min

2nd Floor, City Hall  
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J 2R7

PHONE: 780-496-8333  
anne.stevenson@edmonton.ca

August 14, 2023

To the Edmonton Naming Committee,

Re: Oliver Community League Name Change – Letter of Support

As the City Councillor that represents Ward O-day'min, I'm pleased to have the opportunity to provide my enthusiastic support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood.

I support the community-based process that was undertaken in consultation with the Elder renaming circle, which was composed of a number of diverse groups. I'm so pleased about the proposed new community league name, Wihkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

Not only does it reflect the best of what the neighbourhood is, this proposed new name has the potential to lead the community towards a better future by valuing local Indigenous language. This is a great step in the service of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee. This is an important response to the calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens, and reflects the community's desire to define and shape the character of our neighbourhood.

Sincerely,

Councillor Anne Stevenson  
Ward O-day'min

August 21, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

On behalf of Doughnut Party, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a businessowner in the area.

I appreciate the process that was undertaken to engage the community and the consultation with the Elder renaming circle, and I support the proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

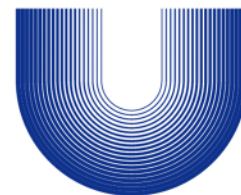
This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. It also represents an important step toward reconciliation. I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I fully support the OCL's application to the Naming Committee as they seek to change the name of the community league.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Underwood', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Underwood  
Owner  
Doughnut Party



August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: **Oliver Community League Name Change** – Letter of Support

On behalf of Unity Square please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is our pleasure to support this initiative as a business in the area.

We support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. We fully support the proposed new community league name, Wîhkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and we commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, we fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

*Paula Lee*

Paula Lee  
Regional Director, Retail Services



PRIDE CENTRE  
OF EDMONTON

operations@pridecentreofedmonton.ca

10618 105 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T5H 0L2

(780) 488 - 3234

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Oliver Community League Name Change – Letter of Support**

On behalf of The Pride Centre of Edmonton, please accept this letter of support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood. It is my pleasure to support this initiative as a business in the area.

I support the thorough process that was undertaken to engage the community, in consultation with the Elder renaming circle comprised of diverse groups. I fully support the proposed new community league name, Wihkwêntôwin, which translates in English to 'Circle of Friends'.

This new name can help move the community forward and build a better future. This is a great step in the umbrella of reconciliation, and I commend the OCL Board for doing their part.

In conclusion, I fully support the Oliver Community League's application to the Naming Committee in response to calls to action as they seek to change the name of the community league with a reconciliation lens.

Thank you,

Esjay LaFayette  
Executive Director  
The Pride Centre of Edmonton



# Hon. Randy Boissonnault

Member of Parliament  
Edmonton Centre



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

August 16, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

## Regarding Oliver Community League Name Change

I am pleased to offer my support for the Oliver Community League's application to rename the Oliver neighbourhood as "Wihkwêntôwin", which I understand translates to 'Circle of Friends'.

It is my understanding that the Oliver Community League conducted a rigorous consultation process involving the Oliver community as well as an Elder renaming circle in creating the new neighbourhood name. This collaboration is an important part of our journey along the path of reconciliation with the people who have called this land home for time immemorial.

I share the hopes of those involved in the renaming process and the wider community that the new name will be adopted and accepted in a spirit of reconciliation and renewal of this historic community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Randy Boissonnault".

Hon. Randy Boissonnault  
Member of Parliament, Edmonton Centre

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