

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Town of Lunenburg Renaming Cornwallis Street and Parks

**January 24, 2023** – Lunenburg Town Council approved recommendations from its Anti-Racism Special Committee to rename Cornwallis Street as well as two local parks in an effort to honour African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaw figures, place names and words from Lunenburg's history.

On December 13, 2022, Council approved changing the street name from Cornwallis, with the final name to be determined after consultation with residents. The controversial former governor of Nova Scotia issued a “scalping proclamation” bounty in 1749 to anyone who killed Mi'kmaw men, women, and children. A fresh look at our history has prompted other municipalities in the province such as Bridgewater, Kentville, Halifax and Sydney to change their Cornwallis Street names in recent years.

An online public survey for Lunenburg residents is now available here: <https://bit.ly/TOL-cornwallis-survey>. A paper version of the survey is available from the public counters at Town Hall and will be mailed to residents of Cornwallis Street. Responses to the survey will be accepted until February 13, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. AST.

Council also approved:

- Changing the name of “Blockhouse Hill Park” to “Sylvia Park”, in honour of an enslaved woman in the service of Colonel John Creighton. Sylvia's heroic actions helped defense efforts during the 1782 Sack of Lunenburg by American privateers.
- Changing the name of the “250th Anniversary Park” to “Labrador Park”, in honour of Old Labrador (a.k.a. Paul Labrador), the last Mi'kmaw/Acadian family in the area when what we now call Lunenburg was founded in 1753. This park contains a Mi'kmaw medicine garden and is close to the location of the original Labrador farm.

The Anti-Racism Special Committee was formed by Lunenburg Town Council in response to an action item in the Lunenburg Comprehensive Community Plan and community interest. It began its work in 2021 to identify recommendations to support equity, diversity, inclusion and dignity of all people, with particular emphasis on anti-Black and Indigenous racism.

**For more information:**

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