The Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen’s University, Patrick Deane, has asked the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Mark Walters, to initiate a consultation process to review the name of the Law Faculty building, Sir John A. Macdonald Hall. Macdonald was one of the principal architects of confederation and the first prime minister of Canada. However, concerns have been raised about the policies he advanced in relation to Indigenous peoples, in particular the residential school system, and in relation to other national, ethnic, and racial groups.

Through this consultation process, opinions will be invited from interested people from within and outside the Queen’s community regarding the name of the building. The Principal has asked the Dean of Law to consider the results of this consultation process and to make a recommendation on the matter to him. The Principal will take into consideration the results of the consultation process and the Dean’s recommendation and develop his own recommendation to be submitted to the Queen’s University Board of Trustees in time for a meeting expected during the Fall Term. The authority to make decisions about campus building names rests with the Board of Trustees.

The consultation process involves the formation of an advisory committee with a diverse membership, including Indigenous members, drawn from students, faculty, staff, and alumni, that will welcome and consider comments from interested people about the law building name. Students, faculty and staff within the Faculty of Law will also have an opportunity to express their views on this issue, either directly or through their representatives, in a meeting of the law school’s Faculty Board. Based upon these consultations, the Dean of Law will present a report and recommendation regarding the name of the building to Principal Deane on or before October 1, 2020. The various recommendations produced during this process will remain confidential until such time as they are presented to the Board of Trustees.

A broad range of ideas about the building name will be welcomed. However, this process will not seek suggestions on alternative names for the building. A process for re-naming the law building would follow only upon a decision by the Board of Trustees that the present name should be removed or changed.

**Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee will:

- Develop a framework of principles that will guide the collection of opinions and the development of a recommendation (for further detail, see below).
- Together with the Dean of Law, approve a survey that will allow interested people to submit written statements to express their opinions regarding the building’s name.
- Reach out to stakeholders to solicit their opinions.
- Determine a schedule and plans for the committee to hear oral comments or submissions from interested people.
- Review written statements and a summary of the oral comments or submissions.
- Provide a report with a recommendation to the Dean about the present name of the building on or before September 28, 2020.
Principles to Govern the Advisory Committee’s Work

1. The advisory committee will develop a framework of principles to guide its work. In doing so, it may wish to consult principles developed by other universities which have addressed questions about names of buildings or other physical spaces. It should be sensitive, however, to the need for institutions to craft their responses to such questions in a manner that respects their individual and distinctive contexts.

2. In the case of Queen’s University, the context that should inform the work of the Committee includes the commitment by the University to equity, diversity and inclusion, as expressed in the Principal’s Implementation Committee on Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (PICRDI), Final Report (10 April 2017), and the commitment by the University to reconciliation, as expressed in Yakwanastahentéha Aankenjigemi -- Extending the Rafters: Truth and Reconciliation Commission Task Force Final Report.

3. In carrying out its work, the advisory committee will seek to abide by principles of procedural fairness. It will take reasonable steps to ensure that the consultation process is seen to be fair by everyone interested in the building name.

4. Although certain committee members may have formed opinions about the building name, during the consultative process the committee members are expected to hear and fairly consider the views presented to them with an open mind. During the consultation process, the committee members are to conduct themselves in an impartial manner and avoid advancing particular positions.

5. Once the survey questions have been set and the consultation process formally launched, the advisory committee will carry out its work independently without intervention from the Dean of Law.

6. After considering all submissions and points of view, the members of the committee will weigh carefully what they have heard, exercise their own judgment, and develop a recommendation. If a consensus proves impossible, separate statements from committee members may be included in the committee’s final report.

Membership

S. Anderson  Executive Director, Office of Advancement, Communications (Co-member with L. Kalin representing Queen’s Office of Advancement)
C.A. Budd  B.Sc. Eng. ‘89; D.Sc. ‘16, Partner, Veritable Wealth Advisory; Community Co-chair Aboriginal Council of Queen’s University
S. Crawley  Law ’21
J. Fung  Law ’08, Associate General Counsel, Nissan Canada Inc. (Co-chair)
R. Garcia  ArtSci ’13, President, Queen’s University Alumni Association
G. Henderson  Associate Professor and Associate Dean (Faculty Relations), Faculty of Law (Co-chair)
L. Kalin  BAH ’92, Associate Vice-Principal, Office of Advancement (Co-member with S. Anderson representing Queen’s Office of Advancement)
J. Keenan  Law ’90, Chair, Dignitas International
S. Mainville  Law ’04, Olthuis Kleer Townshend LLP
E. Prieur  Law ’22
J. Thomas  Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law
M. Wong  ArtSci ‘03, Vice Chair, Executive Committee, University Council