Colonial buildings and statues

Intro

Recently, there has been some debate about the names of certain buildings and schools and the presence of certain statues in Canada.

The following are a few examples of this issue that have come up over the past year or so. Please read each description and say whether you support or oppose changes to that particular monument or building name.

[ROTATE Q1 – Q3]

Q1. An Ontario teacher’s union has recently passed a motion calling on school districts to rename all schools named after John A. Macdonald. Macdonald was Canada’s first Prime Minister and a founding father of this country. He also approved the first residential schools in the country. Do you support or oppose renaming schools named after John A. Macdonald?

Strongly support
Support
Oppose
Strongly oppose
Not sure/Can’t say

Q2. Prime Minister Trudeau recently removed Hector-Louis Langevin’s name from the building housing the Office of the Prime Minister. Langevin was mayor of Quebec City, an MP and one of the Fathers of Confederation. He also supported separating Indigenous children from their parents to assimilate them, and was an architect of the residential school system. Do you support or oppose the decision to change the name of the Langevin Block building?

Strongly support
Support
Oppose
Strongly oppose
Not sure/Can’t say

Q3. Edward Cornwallis was the governor of Nova Scotia and a military officer credited by the British for founding the city in 1749. Later that year, he issued a bounty, or reward, for the killing of the region’s Indigenous Mi’kmaq people. Would you support or oppose removing the statue in Halifax and changing the name of Cornwallis Square, where it stands?

Strongly support
Support
Oppose
Strongly oppose
Not sure/Can’t say

Q4 Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

These statues would be better placed in museums, where they are able to be viewed with proper historical context

We should not judge historical figures by today's concepts of racism

If we start taking down these statues it will lead to more and more complaints. It’s better to just leave it alone.

Governments should have an independent committee in place to consider formal proposals for the renaming of monuments, schools and other institutions

In assessing names to monuments, we should take into account the entire life of an individual and principal legacy they left behind

[COLUMNS]
Strongly disagree
Moderately disagree
Moderately agree
Strongly agree

Finally, which party's candidate did you vote for in the last federal election held in October 2015?

[ANCHORED]I did not vote
Conservative Party of Canada
Liberal Party of Canada
New Democratic Party (NDP)
Bloc Quebecois [QC only]
Green Party
Some other party
Rather not say