



**FRIENDS OF
EGERTON
RYERSON**

January 11, 2022

The Hon Jessica Bell MPP
University/Rosedale
Government of Ontario
Queen's Park, Toronto

Dear Jessica

As a member of the association, Friends of Egerton Ryerson. I wrote to you several weeks ago expressing my disappointment in Andrea Horwath's dismissal of our objection to the proposed name change for Ryerson University. A letter, addressed to Premier Doug Ford, was sent to her, other leaders of the parties in opposition and to the Hon. Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities.

We are appealing to the Government of Ontario to reject the proposal for the name change and have provided evidence that the decision to do so was based on misinformation and erroneous conclusions that Egerton Ryerson was somehow complicit in setting up residential schools. He died long before they became government policy and actually assisted the indigenous peoples in setting up the kind of schools they, themselves, wanted. He was a friend to them, spoke Ojibway and actually lived among them for a period of time.

As one of your constituents I would be very interested in setting up a meeting with you to discuss this matter in greater detail. Such a meeting could include a member of our association, Len Fortune, who is of indigenous descent.

If you log onto our website at <https://friendsofegertonryerson.ca> you can read the article in which Len argues in defense of Egerton Ryerson's extensive contributions to the development of public education in Ontario, and against the proposed name change for Ryerson University.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards
Rose Dyson Ed.D.
167 Glen Road

c.c. Dorothy Goldin Rosenberg