

Delores Rouleau Woolrich

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June 12, 2019

Councillor Jeromy Farkas
Ward 11, City of Calgary
P.O.Box 3100, Station M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

RE: SUPPORT FOR HRBSS - HISTORIC ROULEAUVILLE BILINGUAL STOP SIGNS INITIATIVE

Dear Councillor Farkas:

I am Delores Rouleau Woolrich, a native Calgarian, born here in 1934, great granddaughter of Justice Charles-Borromée Rouleau, who was the namesake of historic Rouleauville. The Judge was an illustrious pioneer citizen of Calgary, coming to the city in 1886 and serving as Stipendiary Magistrate before being appointed to the first Supreme Court of the North-West Territories in 1887.

I am so very pleased about this latest unique project to install bilingual stop signs at certain street corners in historic Rouleauville, today's Mission district. This initiative clearly invites people to find out about Rouleauville-Mission, which I understand they can now also do via a new App, GPS guided tour. This not only continues to honour the memory of my great-grandfather and all past and present members of my family, but also serves to inform Calgary's public at large and millions of tourists who flock to our city at Calgary Stampede time, about historic Rouleauville in Mission, in both English and in French.

Although my great grandfather played a significant role in establishing Calgary's historic French Quarter, my father Charles Rouleau, unfortunately downplayed all ties to his French-Canadian heritage and never spoke of the important role played by his father Charles-Borromée and my great uncle Dr. Édouard-Hector Rouleau.

Imagine my surprise when I first learned about these trailblazing French-Canadian pioneers during class at St. Mary's school when our teacher spoke about them and said that I was their direct descendant! I ran home that day and asked my mother if this was really true! Hard to believe that this is how I first came to learn about such an important part of Calgary's history.

Although great strides have been made to shine a light on Calgary's French roots since the early 1990s, by dedicated volunteers such as Suzanne Sawyer, now Suzanne de Courville Nicol and Ben Van De Walle (1994: Rouleauville Then and Now on YouTube), Ken LaPointe, 2008 to now, and Rob Lennard, the History Wrangler who wrote and produced a song in English and in French about ROULEAUVILLE, and initiated the HRBSS project, all initiatives are meaningful and are of the greatest importance.

I can think of no simpler and more visible way to garner positive attention and invite everyday citizens to find out more about Calgary's French Roots, history and heritage, actually dating as far back as 1871.

Thank you for putting forward this historic Motion at your City Council Meeting on Monday, June 17, 2019.

Sincerely,



Delores Rouleau Woolrich

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| CITY OF CALGARY RECEIVED IN COUNCIL CHAMBER JUN 17 2019 ITEM: 12.1.4 C2019-0796 CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT |
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