**ELA A30: Controversial Issues Regarding Historical Figures Fairbairn**

**Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Before we begin, let us watch [Christopher Columbus on trial](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GD3dgiDreGc). We will watch this video to realize that our views and opinions about history can, and should change. We also need to realize that we must be critical thinkers in everything that we view, see, or hear, and not immediately be so trusting. (That includes what you learn in school, from teachers, peers, social media etc.)

In a group, please DISCUSS OR WRITE down the following. If there are opposing/different answers, simply write them both or all down. Point form is fine. If it states discuss, then you do not need to write anything down. (Hint: I give space for answers, and no space for discussion)

1. In august of 2017, a deadly white “nationalist” rally took place in Charlottesville, Va. Please look up this rally, and write down WHY it took place.
2. “ It’s a controversial topic, as many believe these statues represent America’s pro-slavery movement, while others, including U.S. President Donald Trump, say they should remain intact as they are an important part of history.” **Discuss** as a group, your feelings about the matter.
3. Notice the quotations I placed around nationalist. I did that because some people believe nationalists is just a nice, cover up term for supremacy. (White nationalism versus white supremacy) Read the following [article](https://www.cjr.org/language_corner/nationalist-supremacist.php) and write down the difference between the two according to the article.
4. Do you agree with it? Disagree? Why? **DISCUSS.** Please realize that “A “white nationalist” generally wants a nation of white people” and I challenge you to think about whether that is different from what a white supremacist is.
5. Using the article [here](https://globalnews.ca/news/3674023/controversial-signs-and-statues-across-canada/?utm_source=GlobalRegina&utm_medium=Facebook), pick 3 cities, not including Regina, that have a controversial figure being used as a representative of Canada. (Example, Montreal’s Alexis Carrel street and park) Explain why the person is considered controversial.

A)

B)

C)

1. You stated facts about why people would like to see things changed, pick 2-4 from the example you gave and **discuss** with the group your thoughts around changing the names. Should it be changed? Why? Why not?
2. Look specifically at Regina and our famous street- Dewdney. Why is this name considered controversial? (I encourage you to look BEYOND this article, and do some more research as well because this is only a small glimpse at history)
3. Some argue that no one looks up the origin of the street name/school etc. anyway, so why change it? **Discuss.**  Does your opinion change now that you know?-**After all, once you see it you cannot unsee it (plead ignorance)**
4. Please go to the website [here](http://leaderpost.com/news/local-news/removing-controversial-past-from-street-signs-and-landmarks-a-rare-event-for-city), and lets look at more examples in Regina. The first bit of this article states “compared with some cities in the United States, Regina has very little controversy associated with statues.” Although it is on a smaller scale then what occurred in the US, does that make our issue less important or less controversial? **Discuss**.
5. Nicol in this article states ““When they renamed Saskatchewan Drive, it impacted a number of residences and businesses,” Nicol said. “Other potential changes, depending on where they are in the city, can have big implications.” **Discuss**, what is he concerned about, and is this issue of inconvenience more or less important than the renaming of controversial streets?
6. Please read the following article [here](http://leaderpost.com/news/local-news/petition-launched-to-move-sir-john-a-macdonald-statue-from-victoria-park). It is regarding the removal of Sir John A Macdonald statue from Victoria Park in Regina. After getting your facts straight and discussing whether it should/should not be removed, create a chart giving reasons for both sides.
7. Please read the following article here. It is regarding the name change of Davin school. After getting your facts straight and discussing whether it should/should not be changed, create a chart giving reasons for both sides.