Jan 13, 2021 Sculptural Controversies: Ashlyn Biggs

1. (I read the purpose of a statue and 5 Canadians whose statues are - or could be – controversial)

* These two articles show how statues a long time ago or historical statues may not be as important or relevant nowadays as they can represent racism and discrimination.
* These statues or monuments should symbolize something that everyone can believe in and connect to.
* The articles argue that we need to start taking down statues that no longer symbolize important history and make them culturally appropriate for people in todays society.
* All in all, statues being present in society nowadays cause more concern and upset amongst people because of the statues historical meaning, which is why people want to take them down.

2. Ultimately, I agree with what the articles are saying because these statues represent some upsetting, and bitter times. These statues represent racism and discrimination against cultures, and I know that people can relate to this immensely just by looking at these statues. This is why people want to take them down, and so do I. For example, Sir John A. MacDonald was racist, he targeted indigenous people, and established the residential school system. To me, statues are a symbol of honour, we should have statues of people we honour and respect to remind us of a strong community we have. So why should we keep a statue up of a man who is known for taking kids away from their families and tearing them away from their cultures? No wonder people want to rip apart these statues. I’m glad they are getting taken down because then people won’t be reminded of those unpleasant times.

3. These articles are important to me because even though it is 2021, racism is present. I believe that everyone is the same, we are all equal and we are all human. Like I said before, these statues represent racism, and having them up, I can see why people want to take them down. Even though statues are art, they are sculpted, and can be made from high end materials. This has made me realize that art can’t just represent good and happy times. These statues are still beautiful pieces of art, but what they mean, and who they are is the reason why people want to take them down. All in all, a part of arts role in the world is to show and tell us about history, and the past. In this case, the statues represent bitter history, and art can not always be good, and this why people want to tear them down.