

Proposed Renaming of Greyton Site Parkette to Senator Peter Bosa Parkette

Date:	September 15, 2008
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 15 - Eglinton-Lawrence
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The purpose of the report is to respond to the request made at the September 10th, 2007 Etobicoke York Community Council meeting regarding the naming of a park after the Honourable Senator Peter Bosa.

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation staff is recommending that Greyton Site Parkette, located on Vaughan Rd at Arlington, be officially renamed "Senator Peter Bosa Parkette" in honour of his significant contributions to the City of Toronto and Canada.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy have been met.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that the North York Community Council approve the renaming of Greyton Site Parkette to "Senator Peter Bosa Parkette".

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Comments

Peter Bosa was born on May 2, 1927. In 1948, at the age of 20 years old, he left war torn Europe to arrive in Canada. He became a proud Canadian while remaining equally proud of his Italian heritage and devoting a large part of his life to community projects, charitable work, and public service.

He served for seven years, as an Alderman of the City of York, before being appointed to the Senate by Pierre Trudeau. He distinguished himself by heading the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism, and presided over such committees as Foreign Affairs, Official Languages Policy and Programs, the Special committee on Child Custody and Access among many others. He felt very strongly that multiculturalism benefited all Canadians creating strong feelings of loyalty to Canada and greater dedication to national unity. In his 21 years, he never wavered in his commitment as a representative of Ontario, Toronto, the Italian community, nor as a Canadian citizen.

Among his accomplishments, he was a voice for the Italian-Canadian community, and co-founded the Canadian – Italian Studies at York University, where he acted as Chair. In addition, Senator Bosa was Chairman of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism, and served as President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a position for which he was honoured by Juan Carlos, King of Spain.

Senator Bosa remained a man who understood that happiness was found in the beauty of nature, in the simplistic pleasure of growing his own garden and in the lifetime joy that he took in making his own wine. In 1998 Senator Peter Bosa lost his battle with cancer, leaving behind his wife Teresa and two children.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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