



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Proposed naming to “Bennett Parkette”

<b>Date:</b>	December 1, 2009
<b>To:</b>	Etobicoke York Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 13 – Parkdale-High Park
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### **SUMMARY**

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

This report responds to the request made at Etobicoke York Community Council (EY31.58) at its November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting, regarding the naming of the parkette, situated at 10 Gothic Avenue, in honour of Mrs. Eunice Bennett and Winifred Bennett.

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation staff is recommending that the parkette situated at 10 Gothic Avenue be officially named “Bennett Parkette” in honour of their contributions to the City of Toronto.

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.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

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**The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that:**

Etobicoke York Community Council name the parkette located at 10 Gothic Avenue to “Bennett Parkette” in honour of Mrs. Eunice Bennett and Winifred Bennett.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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

## **DECISION HISTORY**

At its meeting of November 10, 2009, Etobicoke York Community Council received a letter from Councillor Bill Saundercook requesting that the parkette situated at 10 Gothic Avenue be named the “Bennett Parkette”. The Community Council referred this matter to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report back at a Community Council meeting. (Item EY31.58 – Renaming of Parkette on Gothic Avenue)

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ey/bgrd/backgroundfile-25235.pdf>)

## **COMMENTS**

A formal request has been submitted to the City of Toronto to name the parkette located at 10 Gothic Avenue to “Bennett Parkette.”

In 1970, two of the City’s largest developers applied for rezoning in the Gothic Avenue area. The proposal at that time was to demolish the 50 houses on Gothic Avenue plus a dozen more on Quebec Avenue to build a number of large apartment towers.

Residents of the area organized to oppose the development, believing that the plans would change the nature of the neighbourhood. At that time, housing was at a premium in the City of Toronto and it was not acceptable to them to tear down large homes in good structural condition. The late Mrs. Eunice Bennett, together with her daughter Winifred Bennett, were instrumental in saving the homes from being demolished. Winifred Bennett was a dedicated public health nurse with the City and has lived on Gothic Avenue for the last ninety years.

Naming the parkette situated at 10 Gothic Avenue to “Bennett Parkette” is an opportunity to honour and recognize the Bennetts and their dedication to this community.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Brenda Patterson,  
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation