

Renaming of Flemingdon Arena

Date:	February 26, 2009
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 26 – Don Valley West
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek North York Community Council approval to rename the Flemingdon Arena to the Angela James Arena in Flemingdon Park, in recognition of Ms. James' accomplishments in the sports world, as well as her inspiration to local residents as a product of the Flemingdon Park community.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation has exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy has been met and recommends the renaming of this arena. The Ward Councillor has also expressed his support in renaming this arena in honour of Angela James.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that North York Community Council approve the renaming of the Flemingdon Arena located at 165 Grenoble Dr, near Don Mills and Eglinton Ave. W., to the Angela James Arena in Flemingdon Park in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy.

Financial Impact

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of January 13, 2009 the North York Community Council approved a Member Motion from the Ward Councillor directing the General Manager, Parks,

Forestry and Recreation to review the request to rename Flemingdon Arena, Angela James Arena, in accordance with the Naming and Renaming of Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy, and report back to North York Community Council at the scheduled meeting of March 26, 2009.

North York Community Council – Decision Doc. – Jan. 13, 2009 (NY22.38)
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ny/decisions/2009-01-13-ny22-dd.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Flemingdon Park community has been identified as one of Toronto's 13 Priority Neighbourhoods. Local heroes provide inspiration to all residents. In the Flemingdon Park area, the Ward Councillor moved a Motion requesting the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division review a request to rename the Flemingdon Arena in honour of Angela James.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria outlined in the Naming and Renaming of Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy have been met. A public meeting was held at the Flemingdon Community Centre on February 18, 2009. A total of 5,000 flyers advertising this meeting were distributed to the Flemingdon community. All those in attendance at the meeting consented to the renaming of the arena to the Angela James Arena in Flemingdon Park.

COMMENTS

HISTORY OF ANGELA JAMES

Angela James was a resident of Flemingdon Park neighbourhood, from 1966–1981. She developed her hockey skills playing shinny hockey in Flemingdon Park in the 1970's for the Flemingdon Boys House League.

Considered the first superstar of women's hockey, Angela led the way for women's hockey to be recognized locally, nationally and internationally. Angela was a star player and leading goal scorer with 10 Team Canada hockey teams, pacing the team to four world championships during her career. She was named MVP at the national championships eight times. She was assistant coach on the gold medal winning team at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics.

In addition, she was a member of the 1992 and 1994 Canadian Women's Roller Hockey Team, which won gold at the World Championships. She is a role model for hockey players throughout the world.

In May 2008, Angela was inducted into the International Ice Hockey Federation Hall of Fame. One of three women to be the first women to receive this honour, she is also the first African-Canadian player to be named.

A dynamic, energetic and knowledgeable individual with extensive coaching and playing experience, James is an invaluable resource to minor hockey across the country. She is currently Senior Sport Co-ordinator at Seneca College. Combining family commitments with her love of sport, James coaches her son's Minor Atom A hockey team in Richmond Hill and continues to officiate high levels of hockey elsewhere.

Consent to Rename as Angela James Arena in Flemingdon Park

Ms. James has given consent to Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff to have the Flemingdon Arena renamed in her honour in recognition of her outstanding contribution to women in sports and the inspiration she provides to all residents in the Flemingdon community.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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