

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

To: Chair and Members of the Toronto East York Community Council

Recommendation: That the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation report on naming the Parkette, at the south-west corner of Queen Street West and White Squirrel Way, Dr. Paul Garfinkel Parkette.

Discussion: As members of the Toronto and East York Community Council are aware, a major, and much needed, upgrade is currently underway at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health – CAMH. Part of this redevelopment has resulted in the creation of a Parkette that has been improved and deeded to the City of Toronto. This Parkette has not been named.

Dr. Paul Garfinkel, as President and CEO of CAMH, is the driving and guiding force, not only in this redevelopment, but also for bringing mental health institutions into a state of good repair. Dr. Paul Garfinkel has led the integration of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, Addiction Research Foundation, Donwood, and the former Queen Street Mental Health Centre into the holistic Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. His Curriculum Vitae enumerates his deep commitment to mental health in the fields of administration, scholarship, teaching, consultancy, and board membership. Dr. Paul Garfinkel has won twelve scholarships and awards; he has just been awarded the Order of Canada. Dr. Paul Garfinkel is retiring from CAMH this year.

I believe it is most appropriate that Dr. Garfinkel, as a highly regarded city-building mental health professional, be recognized through the naming of Dr. Paul Garfinkel Parkette for his efforts in Ward 19 and for the City of Toronto.

Sincerely,

Joe Pantalone
Deputy Mayor
City of Toronto