

Proposed naming of Dr. Paul Garfinkel Parkette

Date:	March 6, 2009
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 19 – Trinity -Spadina
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.

This report responds to the request of Toronto and East York Community Council at its February 9, 2009 meeting regarding the naming of a parkette after Dr. Paul Garfinkel, President and CEO of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation staff is recommending, that the unnamed parkette located at the south-west corner of Queen Street West and White Squirrel Way be officially named “Dr. Paul Garfinkel 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 Toronto and East York Community Council name the parkette located at the south-west corner of Queen Street West and White Squirrel Way “Dr. Paul Garfinkel Parkette”.

Financial Impact

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

COMMENTS

Dr. Paul Garfinkel is a nationally and internationally renowned psychiatrist, researcher, hospital administrator, humanitarian and advocate, who has been a strong leader in the City of Toronto for more than 30 years.

In 1969, Dr. Paul Garfinkel obtained his medical degree from the University of Manitoba and studied at the Institute of Medical Science at the University of Toronto. He later joined the staff of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry. In 1982, he was appointed Psychiatrist-in-Chief of the Toronto General Hospital and in 1989, of the Toronto Hospital. In 1990, he became Chair of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto and President and Psychiatrist-in-Chief of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry.

Dr. Paul Garfinkel is currently the President and CEO of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto.

Dr. Paul Garfinkel, as President and CEO of the Centre of Addiction and Mental Health, has been the driving and guiding force in the redevelopment of the mental health facility. He 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.

On December 30, 2008, Dr. Paul Garfinkel was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. Dr. Garfinkel's appointment as Officer of the Order recognized "a lifetime of outstanding achievement and merit of a high degree." It is appropriate that Dr. Paul Garfinkel be recognized for his dedication to the community and his life long commitment to the City of Toronto, through the naming of the "Dr. Paul Garfinkel Parkette."

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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