

Proposed re-naming of Weston Wood Park to “Douglas Ford Park”

Date:	December 15, 2009
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 2-Etobicoke North
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

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 a request made at Etobicoke York Community Council (Item EY30.26), regarding the renaming of Weston Wood Park, located at 1521 Royal York Road, to “Douglas Ford Park”

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Division is recommending that the Weston Wood Park be officially named “Douglas Ford Park” in honour of his significant 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Weston Wood Park, located at 1521 Royal York Road, be renamed to “Douglas Ford Park” in honour of Mr. Ford’s significant contributions to the City of Toronto.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

Etobicoke York Community Council, at its meeting of October 13, 2009 in considering a communication from Councillor Francis Nunziata on behalf of residents in Ward 2 requesting that the Weston Wood Park be renamed in honour of Douglas Ford, directed the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with the community, to report back with a recommendation.

(Item EY30.26– Request to rename Weston Wood Park)

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ey/decisions/2009-10-13-ey30-dd.htm>

COMMENTS

Douglas Ford, a local entrepreneur who was elected to Member of Provincial Parliament for Etobicoke-Humber in 1995 and in 1997, was appointed Assistant Deputy Whip for the Government Caucus.

In 1962, he founded a company now known as Deco Labels and Tags. He developed the firm into a multi-million dollar company with more than 100 employees and manufacturing facilities in Toronto and Chicago.

Mr. Ford was committed to his community, and assisted various organizations, including the Salvation Army, Big Brothers and groups assisting seniors and children with special needs. He was an active member of the rotary club for 38 years. His dedication to the community and to helping others was recognized by the Rotary Club of Toronto. He was named a Paul Harris Fellow, an honour given to Rotarians who have demonstrated outstanding community leadership.

Throughout his life, Mr. Ford endeavoured to give back to his community and help those around him through his active involvement in business, volunteer organizations and public service as an elected representative. Re-naming Weston Wood Park to Douglas Ford Park will honour Mr. Ford's memory and the many actions he took to better his community and the lives of the residents.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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