



May 20, 2010

Frances Nunziata Chair  
Etobicoke York Community Council

Subject: Petition to Name Park at 2111 Lake Shore Blvd W "Jean Augustine Park"

**SUMMARY:**

A petition has been received from a group of Toronto residents, referred to as "Friends of Jean Augustine". The petition requests that the Park currently referred to as Newport Beach Park, part of the Humber Bay Shore Park System, which runs between Lake Shore Boulevard West and Marine Parade Drive be given the name the Jean Augustine Park.

The Honourable Jean Augustine is currently a resident of Ward 6 in the Humber Bay Shores Community where the park is located. Her accomplishments in South Etobicoke, the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario and our country, Canada, are many and well acknowledged.

In 1993, Canadian politician Jean Augustine became the first Black woman elected to the Parliament of Canada, representing Etobicoke lakeshore as their Member of Parliament. An energetic advocate of social justice, she worked as the principal of an elementary school in South Etobicoke before entering federal politics.

During her years as a federal member of parliament, The Honourable Jean Augustine has been the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister of Canada, Chair of the National Liberal Women's Caucus, Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Deputy Speaker.

The mother of two daughters, Jean Augustine is the recipient of numerous awards--including the 1994 Canadian Black Achievement Award, the YWCA Woman of Distinction and the Kaye Livingstone Award for support of issues relating to Black women, and most recently the Order of Canada. Ms. Augustine has worked on many initiatives related to youth, noting that "racism is the most significant barrier to the successful integration of newcomer black youths to Canada".

She has served on numerous Boards in the City of Toronto, including the Board of Governors of York University, the Board of Trustees for The Hospital for Sick Children, the Board of Directors of the Donwood Institute, the Board of Harbourfront Corporation and Chair of the Metro Toronto Housing Authority. She was also National President of the Congress of Black Women of Canada.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Etobicoke York Community Council request staff to investigate the proposal as outlined in the petition and report back to the next Community Council with recommendations.

Mark Grimes  
Councillor, Ward 6 Etobicoke Lakeshore

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