

Clause embodied in Report No. 11 of the Scarborough Community Council, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001.

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**Naming of the Trail in Warden Woods Park  
In Honour of the Late Former Mayor of Scarborough  
Gus Harris  
(Ward 35 - Scarborough Southwest)**

*(City Council on December 4, 5 and 6, 2001, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)*

**The Scarborough Community Council recommends the adoption of the following report (October 29, 2001) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:**

Purpose:

To respond to the request by Scarborough Community Council, at its meeting of June 20, 2000, to investigate the possibility of naming a City park or other appropriate landmark within the Scarborough community in honour of the late Gus Harris.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

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

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the existing trail in Warden Woods Park (Attachment No. 1) be named in honour of the late Gus Harris;
- (2) an appropriate official dedication ceremony take place in 2002, following consultation with family members; and
- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

Council, at its meeting of August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000, adopted the amended recommendation of Scarborough Community Council Report No. 9, Clause No. 20 from the Commissioner Economic Development, Culture and Tourism (July 6, 2000), that:

“Staff consult with the Harris family and recommend to Scarborough Community Council the specific park to be renamed, or the new park to be named, following the parkland naming policy.”

Comments:

Consultation has taken place with the Harris family, who are very enthusiastic about the naming of the trail. The family, whose residence was within the area, are very familiar with the park and have indicated that they have used this trail on a number of occasions over the years.

Gus Harris was an avid walker/hiker and the naming of the trail system in his honour is very appropriate.

The criteria set out in the Parks Renaming Policy which was adopted by Council at its meeting of November 25, 26 and 27, 1998, was followed.

Conclusions:

Gus Harris made a significant and long standing contribution to the former City of Scarborough.

Mr. Harris served in public office in Scarborough for forty years. In 1949, Mr. Harris became a School Trustee of Area 1 and continued his public office career to become a member of Council of Ward 2 in 1951 and Ward 4 in 1954. Mr. Harris was appointed as the Deputy Reeve in 1955 and the Reeve in 1956. Mr. Harris was elected again as Councillor Ward 4 in 1961 and became the Public Utilities Commissioner from 1963 to 1966. In 1967, Mr. Harris was appointed as a member of the Board of Control, and in December 1, 1978 was elected as Mayor of Scarborough.

Mr. Harris served as Mayor from 1978 to 1988. During his years of service, Mr. Harris saw Scarborough through its most dynamic period of growth from a semi-rural village to Canada's seventh largest city. Mr. Harris fought for fiscally sound municipal government and a more substantial subway line.

The Harris family has indicated that naming the trail in Warden Woods Park, “The Gus Harris Trail” would be a very fitting tribute.

Contact:

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