

**Clause embodied in Report No. 4 of the Toronto South Community Council, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on May 18, 19 and 20, 2004.**

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**Renaming of Davisville Park to  
June Rowlands Park (St. Paul's, Ward 22)**

*(City Council on May 18, 19 and 20, 2004, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)*

**The Toronto South Community Council recommends the adoption of the report (March 16, 2004) from the Commissioner, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:**

Purpose:

To report to Toronto South Community Council on the recommendation for the proposed renaming of Davisville Park to June Rowlands Park.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications associated with the adoption of this report

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) The Parkland known as Davisville park be renamed to the June Rowlands park; and
- (2) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

A motion by Councillor Walker, Ward 22 St Pauls, was accepted at Midtown Community Council, September 9, 2003 to rename Davisville Park to June Rowlands Park. Davisville Park is situated on Davisville Ave between Mount Pleasant and Millwood Ave, within the former Ward 10.

June Rowlands served as the first woman Mayor of Toronto from 1991-1994. Previous to her time as mayor, Ms. Rowlands served as a Toronto City Councillor in the former Ward 10, North Toronto between 1976 and 1988. She was the first woman TTC commissioner, the first woman chair of the Police Commission, and the City Budget Chief. June Rowlands is an advocate of women's issues and served as a strong voice for the Davisville community for many years.

Archive records confirm that Davisville Park was founded in 1923 and at that time was named after the street on which it was located, Davisville Ave. The area surrounding the parkland is known and referred to as Davisville Village. Davisville Village was named after John Davis, who immigrated to Canada from Staffordshire, England in 1840. John Davis served as Davisville's first postmaster and helped found the Davisville Public School. He also operated Davis Pottery, which became the Village's largest employer.

Comments:

June Rowlands has not yet been formally recognized for her dedication to the City of Toronto. The Davisville park location is ideal to commemorate June Rowlands because, she lived just south of Davisville Park for fourteen years where she raised her family and served her years on City Council.

Davisville Park was not named directly for an individual. It was named after the street Davisville Ave. The street was named directly after John Davis. The culture division does not object to the renaming of this park as it is currently named for the neighbourhood and not for an individual or event.

The request to rename Davisville Park to June Rowlands Park is supported by the local councillor, Heritage Preservation Services, Parks and Recreation and June Rowlands family.

A community meeting was held on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004, to discuss the renaming of the park. 10,000 flyers were distributed to the community and 45 members of the public came to the consultation, including June Rowlands family. There was an even distribution of people at the meeting for and against the motion to rename the park. Additional petitions have been received from community members not present at the meeting opposing the motion.

Conclusions:

The Parkland located on Davisville Ave in Ward 22 known as Davisville Park be renamed the June Rowlands Park.

Contact:

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The Toronto South Community Council also had before it the following communications and a copy is on file in the office of the City Clerk:

- (March 5, 2004) from Tina Leppik;
- (March 18, 2004) from Keith Loach;
- (March 18, 2004) from Tim Carter;
- (March 11, 2004) from Keith Loach;

- (undated) from Murray and Grace Scovell;
- (April 23, 2004) from Keith Loach;
- (April 30, 2004) from Tiina Lipp-Leppik;
- (April 30, 2004) from Elizabeth Eayrs;
- 46 communications in support submitted by Councillor Walker;
- 9 communications in opposition submitted by Councillor Walker;
- (May 4, 2004) from Barbara Hall;
- (undated) from Alex Grenzebach, North Toronto Historical Society;
- (May 4, 2004) from Mart Leppik; and
- (May 4, 2004) from Joan Currie, submitting a petition with 329 signatures in opposition.

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The following appeared before the Toronto South Community Council:

- Tiina Lipp-Leppik;
- Alex Grenzebach, North Toronto Historical Society;
- Joan Currie;
- Ann Rowan, obo Toronto Historical Association;
- Don Purdy;
- Howard Brown;
- Stephen Jack;
- Mike McClew;
- Henry Clarke; and
- Charlotte Maher.