Proposed renaming of Dupont Parkette to "Sergeant Ryan Russell" Parkette

Date: April 21, 2011

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Wards: Ward 20 - Trinity Spadina

Reference Number: P:\2011\Cluster A\PFR\TE07-052511-AFS #13502

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 the request made by the Ward Councillor to investigate the feasibility of renaming Dupont Parkette in honour of the late Sergeant Ryan Russell, who was killed while on duty protecting the citizens of Toronto.

Parks, Forestry, and Recreation is recommending that Dupont Parkette be officially renamed in honour of Sergeant Ryan Russell's significant contributions to the City of Toronto as a member of the Toronto Police Service.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy have been met.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. rename Dupont Parkette, located at 250 Avenue Road, to “Sergeant Ryan Russell Parkette” in honour of his significant contributions to the City of Toronto as a member of the Toronto Police Service.
FINANCIAL IMPACT
There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of February 7, 2011, City Council expressed its support for the proposal to rename the Dupont Parkette in honour of Sergeant Ryan Russell, through a request placed by the Ward Councillor.


At its meeting of February 16, 2011, Toronto and East York Community Council considered and referred to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Item TE4.85, entitled "Renaming of Dupont Parkette as Sergeant Ryan Russell Park."


COMMENTS

On the morning of January 12, 2011, Sergeant Ryan Russell was killed while on duty with the Toronto Police Service. Sergeant Russell was struck by a stolen truck while attempting to arrest its driver on Avenue Road, between Davenport Road and Dupont Street.

Sergeant Russell began his career in October of 1999, moving to the detective office in July of 2002, and later into the gun and gang task force. He became a resident expert on gangs, eventually making presentations to officers across the province. Sergeant Russell moved to 31 Division in May of 2010, where he earned his Sergeants' stripes and was then assigned to 52 Division 'A' platoon.

Sergeant Russell served as a Toronto Police Officer for 11 years and was a dedicated professional who worked hard to make a difference for the residents of Toronto.

Community consultation took place through the distribution of 999 flyers to residents surrounding Dupont Parkette. An approval rating of 76% was noted from the 34 respondents.

CONTACT
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SIGNATURE

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Brenda Patterson,
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