STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Naming of Public Lane South of Front Street East Between Princess Street and Berkeley Street

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<th>Date:</th>
<th>August 21, 2012</th>
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<td>To:</td>
<td>Toronto and East York Community Council</td>
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<td>From:</td>
<td>City Surveyor</td>
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<td>Wards:</td>
<td>Ward 28</td>
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<td>Reference Number:</td>
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SUMMARY

This report recommends that the public lane south of Front Street East between Princess Street and Berkeley Street be named "Nicholson Lane".

Community Councils have delegated authority to decide street naming matters which are in accordance with the City of Toronto Street Naming Naming Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Technical Services recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council name the public lane south of Front Street East between Princess Street and Berkeley Street "Nicholson Lane".

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

We have a request from the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (230 The Esplanade, Toronto, ON M5A 4L1) to name the public lane south of Front Street East between Princess Street and Berkeley Street "Nicholson Lane", as shown in Attachment 1. The background information on Mr. Nicholson is set out in Attachment 2.

COMMENTS
The proposed name has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to the Toronto East York Preservation Panel, Police Services, Fire Services and Emergency Medical Services. The proposal is supported by Councillor McConnell.
This request is part of an ongoing application by the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association to name several lanes in the area.

This naming application pre-dates the new naming policy adopted by City Council at its meeting of November 30 and December 1, 2011. The former City of Toronto Street Naming Policy was approved by City Council at its meeting held on August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 (Clause 9, Report 15 of the Works Committee) and amended on June 1, 2001.

The request has been made at this time, to commemorate Mr. PJ Nicholson, who worked on the development of the St. Lawrence Recreation Centre. The Centre is celebrating its 20th anniversary in September, and it has been requested that the naming of this lane coincide with the 20th anniversary celebration.

Notice to name the lane, under the City of Toronto Act, 2006, will be given in accordance with the notice requirement set out in Chapter 162-3A of the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

CONTACT
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SIGNATURE

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W. (Wally) Kowalenko, City Surveyor

Attachment 1 – Map
Attachment 2 – Background Information
P.J. Nicholson moved to the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood in 1982 and quickly became involved in the quest to build both a new school and a community centre. As there were ample volunteers (mostly parents) concentrating on the need for a new school, he decided to immerse himself in the pursuit of a community centre which had been promised to the neighbourhood when it was founded in 1978.

There were endless meetings - both in the community with planners, architects, and the general public to receive their input on what needed to be included - as well as at city hall to lobby for funds to get the project built.

P.J had come from humble beginning being one of seven boys and used to bemoan the fact that the community did not have a place to swim (particularly during the summer months!) and to hold community meetings, seniors parties, winter/summer sports and other activities.

He was so very proud of the St. Lawrence neighbourhood and the fact that the school and community centre had finally been built was among the proudest things that ever occurred in his life. In 2001, when he was dying from the effects of a stroke and refused to be fed intravenously, he asked that there be no flowers at his funeral. Instead, he wanted any well-wishers to make a donation to the community centre that he loved so much - a centre that was built with the hard work of volunteers from St. Lawrence.