TORONTO

STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED

Naming of the John Street Pedestrian Bridge, "Rod Robbie Bridge"

Date:	August 27, 2012
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	City Surveyor
Wards:	Ward 20
Reference Number:	P:\2012\Cluster B\TEC\TE12017

SUMMARY

This report recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council not approve the proposal to name the bridge spanning the railway lines south of John Street, north-east of the Rogers Centre, “Rod Robbie Bridge”, as Mr. Robbie has been deceased less than two years.

Community Councils have been delegated the authority to approve the naming of City properties in accordance with the Honourific and Street Naming Policy as approved by Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Technical Services recommends that:

(1) Toronto and East York Community Council not approve the proposal to name the bridge spanning the railway lines south of John Street, north-east of the Rogers Centre, “Rod Robbie Bridge”.

Financial Impact

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

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of March 20, 2012 adopted item TE14.59 which requested the City Surveyor, in consultation with the General Manager of Transportation Services, to report to the April 17, 2012 meeting of the Toronto and East York Community Council on renaming the John Street Bridge, which spans the CNR railway lines south of John Street, immediately east of the Rogers Centre, "Rod Robbie Bridge. Additional detail is available at: http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.TE14.59

COMMENTS

The proposed name has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to Police Services, Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services, and the Toronto East York Preservation Panel.

The family of Mr. Robbie has provided written consent to the naming proposal, as required by City of Toronto Honourific and Street Naming Policy, adopted by City Council at its meeting of November 30 and December 1, 2011.

The proposal also complies with Section 6.2.6 of the policy which requires the endorsement of at least two community organizations. Broad support by many communities is indicated by the following sample of evidence:

a. the written support for the proposal by the Toronto Society of Architects;
b. the investiture of Mr. Robbie into the College of Fellows of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada;
c. the appointment of Mr. Robbie as an Officer of the Order of Canada by the former Governor General.

Section 5.2.2 of the Policy states:

> *"Honourific names shall only be awarded posthumously to those individuals who have been deceased for at least two years, with exceptions to be approved by City Council."*

Mr. Robbie passed away on January 4, 2012, and the proposal should not be approved because it is premature.

The details of Council's Honourific and Street Naming Policy can be found at: http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.EX12.2

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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W. (Wally) Kowalenko
City Surveyor

ATTACHMENT - MAP

Attachment No. 1

