Date: September 27, 2013

To: North York Community Council

Subject: Naming of Park – Luigi Boni Parkette

SUMMARY

Although the City of Toronto had for many years maintained and operated "Ridge Park", located on the east side of Ridge Road, this land was not actually owned by the City. This revelation came about during the course of the redevelopment proposal for the new Humber River Hospital. What the City and the Province eventually agreed upon was that as part of the development’s parkland dedication, the Province would deed to the City the land that was historically known as "Ridge Park", which is located on the east side of Ridge Road, abutting the Hospital site.

However, the "real" Ridge Park, that is, the parkland actually owned by the City of Toronto, and on which the City has built bocce courts, maintained and operated, is located on the west side of Ridge Road. It is the smaller piece of park property (on the west side) that is now to be named. I would propose that this parkland be named after Mr. Luigi Boni, an area senior who has been a longtime resident of the Downsview Avenue community and was instrumental in obtaining funding for the lighting of the bocce courts.

The bocce courts provide the local community with an opportunity to strengthen neighbourhood ties and mingle for three seasons of the year. The area has been cleaned by Parks, Forestry & Recreation and benches have been installed. This site has become the local community’s seniors congregation and meeting place.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That North York Community Council request that the General Manager of Parks, Forestry & Recreation investigate and report to North York Community Council on November 19, 2013 on the suitability of naming the proposed parkland located on the west side of Ridge Road 'Luigi Boni Parkette'.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter,

Councillor Maria Augimeri
Ward 9 – York Centre