To: Toronto and East York Community Council

Subject: Renaming the public lane located west of Yonge Street extending northerly from Gibson Avenue as "Paul Hahn Lane".

Paul Hahn (1875-1962) was born in Stuttgart, Germany and moved to Toronto in 1888. As a young man, he was a renowned cellist in who played with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, toured across Ontario and New York state, taught cello and conducted Haydn's Kinder Symphony, the first orchestral concert ever at the Arts and Letters Club in 1911. He started Paul Hahn & Company in 1913 where he restored and sold quality pianos, gramophones and sheet music. In 1948, Paul's business moved to its current location at 1058 Yonge Street. The business was handed over to his son, Paul Jr., in 1955, allowing him to concentrate on his music and various committees like the Arts & Letters Club. Paul Sr. was also a recognized authority on extinct and vanishing birds, writing many articles and giving many lectures on the subject. He donated 68 passenger pigeon specimens, as well as his extensive stamp collection, to the ROM, where he was honoured as a Patron and is to this day much revered. Renaming the portion of lane west of Yonge Street running north from Gibson Avenue to honour Paul Hahn will help to commemorate a man whose passion for music and contributions to the Rosedale business community touched and impacted so many.

Recommendation:

That Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Request the Manager, Land and Property Surveys to investigate and report to Toronto and East York Community Council on the suitability of naming the public lane located west of Yonge Street extending northerly from Gibson Avenue as "Paul Hahn Lane".
Thank you and I shall look forward to the staff report.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Kristyn Wong – Tam
Ward 27 Toronto Centre – Rosedale

KWT/ds