

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

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Roz Dyers, Clerk Toronto East York Community Council City Hall, 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

Re: Renaming of Dupont Parkette East to Jay Macpherson Green

Jean "Jay" Macpherson (June 13, 1931 - March 21, 2012) was a Canadian lyric poet and scholar. Jay Macpherson taught at University College for 40 years and was hired at a time when there were not many women professors. She was also the recipient of a Governor General's Award for her book of poetry, *The Boatman*, which she received at the young age of 27 years old. Margaret Atwood described Macpherson as a very significant figure in the history of Canadian poetry and intellectual life and as the author of "very accomplished, really quite extraordinary work." Jay Macpherson lived in the Yorkville neighbourhood for over 40 years and was an active member of the Avenue-Bay-Cottingham (ABC) Resident's Association.

Dupont Parkette East is located on the east side of Avenue Road and is bordered by Macpherson Avenue and Avenue Road. The park space is undergoing improvements this Fall and the ABC Resident's association has requested that the park be re-named in honour of Jay Macpherson. The renaming of the parkette to Jay Macpherson Green is an appropriate honourific naming because there is public support; the name is fitting with the geographic area where the park is located; and commemorates an important Canadian figure that has made a significant contribution to the neighbourhood through her involvement in the local resident's association.

I am requesting that Council approve the renaming this parkette in Ms. Macpherson's honour, so that the name change can be incorporated into the park improvements being completed in the Fall of 2013.

Recommendation:

That City Council approve the renaming of Dupont Parkette East to "Jay Macpherson Green".

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam Ward 27 Toronto Centre-Rosedale