

# John Filion

---

Toronto City Councillor – Ward 23, Willowdale

**Date:** June 16, 2014  
**To:** North York Community Council –City Clerk's Office-Secretariat  
**From:** Councillor John Filion  
**Subject:** Art Park Naming

## Summary:

The City has acquired lands to create a new park bounded by Princess Avenue to the north, Hillcrest Avenue to the south, Gladys Allison Place to the west and just east of the linear park to the east. The park is being designed this year and will be constructed in 2015.

The new park will have an Arts theme, specifically related to music and sound. It is appropriate to consider naming the park after musicians with a connection to the Willowdale area.

Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson are founding members of the band Rush, which has a highly successful career spanning decades. The band, which originated in Willowdale, is known around the world. In 2013, the band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Rush was started by Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson when they were students at Fisherville Junior High School in Willowdale. They both grew up in Willowdale and attended school here. Early rehearsals and songwriting took place in the area, as did many of the band's early performances at local high schools.

The idea of naming the park after local musicians has been favourably received at two community meetings. The specific name was presented at a consultation meeting held on April 22, 2014.

The name is supported by two local organizations, North York Arts and Willowdale Central Ratepayers' Association.

Both Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson have agreed to have their names put forward.

## Recommendation:

1. The General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation report to the August 12, 2014, North York Community Council on naming the new Art Park being built between Hillcrest Avenue and Princess Avenue, immediately east of Gladys Allison Place as the Lee Lifeson Art Park.



Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street W., Suite B36  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2  
Tel: (416) 392-0210  
Fax: (416) 392-7388  
councillor\_filion@toronto.ca

North York Civic Centre  
5100 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario M2N 5V7  
Tel: (416) 395-6411  
Fax: (416) 395-6441  
www.johnfilion.ca