

**Ward 32**

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November 14, 2016

To: Chair and Members of Toronto East York Community Council  
From: Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, Ward 32 Beaches East York  
Re: Re-opening of Item TE17.60 – "Re-naming of William Hancox Parkette to Upper Beach Garden Park"

**Summary**

The park at the centre of Upper Beach Estates Subdivision, a neighbourhood that is only 15 years old, transformed from a derelict train yard into a centre of a thriving community.

The park is officially named William Hancox Parkette, a name that was applied to the park automatically, in reference to its municipal address. The park has never had a sign and there has been confusion in the community about the name of the property. Adding to this confusion, the City also renamed the former Bridgepoint Park to "Bill Hancox Park" creating an apparent duplication of names.

In February 2016, City Council directed staff to undertake consultations regarding a potential re-naming of the park as "Upper Beach Gardens".

Subsequent consultation identified more community support for a new name – Bob Acton Park. Bob Acton was a well-known fixture in the Beach community, and Upper Beach Estates subdivision where he lived. Bob was a certified hockey and baseball instructor, and his influence was massive in the local sports community where he mentored, trained and coached athletes for more than 20 years at his school, Bob Acton Sports. Afflicted with ALS two years ago when he was 58 years old, Bob Acton died in 2016.

**Recommendation:**

- 1. Toronto East York Community Council consent to reopening the decision on Item TE17.60 – to defer indefinitely the Renaming of William Hancox Parkette to Upper Beach Gardens Park; and*
- 2. Request Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff to investigate the feasibility of naming the parkette at 45 William Hancox Ave. "Bob Acton Park", and to report back to the January 17, 2017 meeting of the Toronto and East York Community Council with a recommendation based on the criteria and process outlined in the Property Naming Policy.*

Thank you.