

## **Proposed Official Naming of New Park at 60 Eastwood Park Gardens, Ward 6**

**Date:** October 17, 2017

**To:** Etobicoke York Community Council

**From:** General Manager Parks, Forestry and Recreation

**Wards:** Ward 6 - Etobicoke Lakeshore

### **SUMMARY**

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This report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division is recommending that the future park located at 60 Eastwood Park Gardens be named "Syd Cole Park". The new park is at the corner of Long Branch Avenue and Eastwood Park Gardens. Eastwood Park Gardens is a new street that is one block to the north of Lake Shore Boulevard West, and runs east-west.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division has reviewed the policy criteria in the Council-approved 'City of Toronto Property Naming Policy' and verifies that the proposed park name meets the criteria.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, recommends that:

1. Etobicoke York Community Council officially name the new park located at 60 Eastwood Park Gardens, "Syd Cole Park".

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no funding obligations associated with the adoption of this report.

## DECISION HISTORY

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At its meeting of July 7, 8 and 9, 2015, City Council adopted the Property Naming Policy with the effective date of October 2015.

City Council EX7.8, "Updated Policies for Naming City Streets and Properties"  
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.EX7.8>

## COMMENTS

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Sydney Reginald Cole was Flight Sergeant in the 192 Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II. He was awarded a Distinguished Flying Medal for "great devotion to duty and exceptional courage". On June 24 1944, Cole continued to perform his duties during an attack on German U-Boats in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire and engine failure. Cole was wounded by shrapnel and abandoned the aircraft in a dinghy, where he spent the next 21 hours in the water, assisting others. He was ultimately able to save the flight Navigator's life, but the pilot, David Hornell did not survive. Cole, born in 1923, lived on Lake Promenade in Long Branch. He died in 1991.

### Public Consultation

As part of the park naming process, Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff consulted with the local Councillor to establish a shortlist of three park names: "Syd Cole Park" after a local WWII hero; "Eastwood Park" after the Eastwoods, an early settler family in Long Branch; and "Thirty Third Street Park" after a nearby street.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation posted an online survey from September 8, 2017 to September 22, 2017, to provide the public with an opportunity to indicate their preferred choice of name. In total, 1668 votes were submitted and were distributed as follows: Syd Cole Park (1,323 votes), Eastwood Park (268 votes), and Thirty Third Street Park (77 votes).

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised their due diligence in ensuring the naming process meets the criteria set in the Council-approved 'City of Toronto Property Naming Policy'. The proposed official name "Syd Cole Park" is supported by the local Councillor and meets the policy criteria in 'City of Toronto Property Naming Policy' in that it is an honourific name which recognizes the significant positive contributions made by an individual to the City of Toronto. Written consent for the honourific name has been received from Sydney Reginald Cole's family.

## CONTACT

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**SIGNATURE**

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Janie Romoff  
General Manager  
Parks, Forestry and Recreation