

Assigning the Ceremonial Name "Harriet Boulton Smith Way" to Part of John Street

Date: February 28, 2017

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: General Manager, Economic Development and Culture

Wards: 20 - Trinity-Spadina

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the ceremonial name of "Harriet Boulton Smith Way" be assigned to John Street between Queen Street West and Stephanie Street.

A ceremonial street dedication does not change the official street name or address information. It does result in the installation of special signage along the selected street.

Transportation Services was consulted during the preparation of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General, Economic Development and Culture, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council assign the ceremonial name "Harriet Boulton Smith Way" to John Street between Queen Street West and Stephanie Street.
2. Transportation Services erect signage marking "Harriet Boulton Smith Way".

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated cost of erecting signage is \$500.00 and will be covered by the 2017 Approved Operating Budget for Transportation Services.

The Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

On July 7, 2015, City Council adopted a set of updated policies for naming City streets and properties. The City of Toronto Street Naming Policy provides guidance on the ceremonial naming of City streets.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.EX7.8>

COMMENTS

The Grange Community Association has submitted a Street Naming Application requesting that the ceremonial name "Harriet Boulton Smith Way" be assigned to John Street between Queen Street West and Stephanie Street. Letters in support of this application were received from Allied Properties Real Estate Investment Trust and the Grange Park Advisory Committee. Consent for the naming on behalf of the Smith family has been received from the Art Gallery of Ontario.

In 1803, D'Arcy Boulton Jr. purchased the lands between McCaul, Queen, Beverley and Bloor streets. In 1817, he built "The Grange," a Neo-Georgian mansion that survives today. The drive up to the house from Queen is now John Street. D'Arcy's son William Henry married Harriet Elizabeth Mann Dixon in 1846. William Henry's mother bequeathed "The Grange" and seven acres of land to Harriet six years later.

After William Henry Boulton's death in 1874, Harriet married Goldwin Smith. In 1902, Sir Edmund Walker convinced Harriet to will her home to the Art Museum of Toronto (AMT), founded in 1900 and then in temporary quarters. Harriet's 1909 will included this bequest, which came into effect upon Smith's death in 1910. The property passed to the AMT, now the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO). "The Grange" re-opened as the core of the museum in 1913, while the surrounding lands were operated by the City of Toronto as Grange Park.

Harriet Boulton Smith's act of philanthropy, which provided the land base for the AGO and Grange Park, is worthy of recognition. Because the northernmost part of John Street was once part of the Boulton estate, and because it terminates at Grange Park, this portion of John Street would be appropriate for the recommended commemorative naming.

As this Street Naming Application and related documentation complies with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy, it is recommended that the ceremonial name "Harriet Boulton Smith Way" be assigned to John Street between Queen Street West and Stephanie Street.

The General Manager, Transportation Services, has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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