Naming of the Public Lane located east of Shaw Street, extending between Dupont Street and Melville Avenue

Date: April 10, 2017  
To: Toronto and East York Community Council  
From: Director, Engineering Support Services, Engineering & Construction Services  
Wards: Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina

SUMMARY

This report recommends that the name "Ivaan Kotulsky Lane" be approved to identify a public lane located east of Shaw Street, extending between Dupont Street and Melville Avenue.

Community Councils have delegated authority to decide street naming matters which comply with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Engineering & Construction Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Approve the name "Ivaan Kotulsky Lane" for a public lane located east of Shaw Street, extending southerly from Dupont Street to Melville Avenue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to install 2 street name signs is approximately $500 and is included within the Transportation Services Division Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

On December 13, 2016, a request was received from Eya Donald Greenland, to name the lane located east of Shaw Street, extending between Dupont Street and Melville Avenue after her late husband, Ivaan Kotulsky.
The applicant provided the following information:

"Ivaan Kotulsky was born in the closing months of World War Two in a forced labour camp in Nazi Germany to Ukrainian parents who were interned in the camp. After the Liberation, Ivaan and his family lived as refugees in Germany until 1949 when the Red Cross arranged for them to come to Canada, sponsored by the family of a blacksmith in Smoky Lake, Alberta.

In 1951, the Kotulsky family (Ivaan, his older sister and their parents) moved to Toronto, where they lived for the rest of their lives. Ivaan attended Harbord Collegiate, then Ryerson Polytechnic Institute, where he studied Photographic Arts. He worked as a photographer for Maclean Hunter Publishing. In 1969, he was sent to Western Canada to photograph some Indian reservations for an article in Chatelaine magazine. While out west, he visited the blacksmith who had sponsored his family to Canada, watched him at work, fell in love with metal arts, and returned to Toronto determined to become a metal artist.

He continued his love of photography while working primarily as a jeweller and sculptor. Ivaan devoted a decade of his life (1990 to 2000) to photographing life on the streets of Toronto with his large collection of vintage cameras. His work achieved much success, most notably when he won both a Gold and a Silver National Magazine Award for his article, No Fixed Address, in Toronto Life Magazine.

In 2000, Ivaan suffered the first of five strokes, a direct result of the starvation his family experienced during the War. In 2008, he was chosen to be the first person in Canada to undergo a pioneering neurosurgical operation, at Toronto Western Hospital, to close off a damaged artery in his brain. While the surgery itself was a success, he suffered a massive stroke during surgery, which proved fatal. His decision to be the first to have this surgery meant that other people now survive this surgery and make a good recovery.

In 2010, Ryerson University acquired a collection of Ivaan’s photographs of well-known musicians, including The Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Jimi Hendrix. In 2012, the City of Toronto acquired 10,000 of Ivaan’s photographs of Toronto street life, which formed the basis of their spectacular year-long exhibition, Life on the Grid. These photographs chronicled the life of the people whom we see daily on Toronto’s streets, the laneways, back alleys and garages which are the half-hidden passages through which the locals navigate the city.

Ivaan has also received considerable recognition for his metal art. A bronze plaque sculpture by Ivaan is part of the Max Tanenbaum Garden at Princess Margaret Hospital. Another of his bronze sculptures is The Advocates’ Society’s Award of Justice. His work has been featured at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Royal Ontario Museum, The Ukrainian Museum of Canada (Ontario Branch), KUMF Gallery, the Artword Gallery and the Ontario Crafts Council. His contribution to the artistic life of Toronto would be appropriately recognized by naming one of his beloved laneways in his honour."
COMMENTS

The proposed name has been circulated for comment and is acceptable to Toronto Police Service, Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Paramedic Services and Councillor Layton.

Consent was provided by Eya Donald Greenland, wife of the late Ivaan Kotulsky.

Community support in the form of a petition from the owners whose properties abut the lane was provided by the applicant.

The lane is shown as PART 1 on Attachment No.1 Sketch No. PS-2017-029.

This naming proposal complies with the City of Toronto Street Naming Policy.

Street Naming Policy

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Mika Raisanen, P. Eng.
Director
Engineering Support Services
Engineering & Construction Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 Sketch No. PS-2017-029
PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

NAMING OF A PUBLIC LANE LOCATED EAST OF SHAW STREET, EXTENDING BETWEEN DUPONT STREET AND MELVILLE AVENUE

WARD 19 - TRINITY-SPADINA
DATE: MARCH 29, 2017

TORONTO ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES

NOTE: THIS SKETCH HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM OFFICE RECORDS. MEASUREMENTS ARE APPROXIMATE.

CHECK BY JOHN HOUSE
PREPARED BY: DWAYNE H. T.