Notice of Motion

MM43.2  ACTION  Ward:44

Naming of Public Property after Councillor Ron Moeser - by Councillor Jim Hart, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Scarborough Community Council. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

Councillor Jim Hart, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council approve the naming of the section of the Waterfront Trail that runs through Ward 44, Scarborough East, as the "Ron Moeser Trail" in honour of the late Councillor Ron Moeser.

Summary

At its meeting held October 2, 3 and 4, 2017 City Council endorsed the Mayor's approach to identify appropriate recognition for Councillor Ron Moeser. In a follow up letter dated March 12, 2018 from the Mayor, it was requested that the current Ward 44 Councillor, Jim Hart, convene a panel and work closely with the Moeser family, interested Councillors and members of the community to identify a suitable public place to rename in memory of the late Councillor.

After serving as the President of the West Rouge Community Association, Ron Moeser was first elected to office in 1987 as a pre-amalgamation City of Scarborough Councillor. It was at that time he began working towards securing funding to construct a tunnel that would pass under the elevated railway tracks and open up the waterfront and provide safe, barrier free access for the community. This was the first step that would begin a decades-long process of acquiring necessary lands and funding to create a waterfront park and trail system along Scarborough's eastern shoreline that would eventually connect Rouge Beach to the Highland Creek watershed.

As well as being a strong advocate for preserving the Rouge Valley lands, it was Ron Moeser's desire and passion to see the waterfront park system completed and he worked diligently throughout his time in office with all orders of government, agencies and community groups to make it a reality.

Following City Council and the Mayor's direction, the local Councillor's office consulted with
the Moeser family and on April 23, 2018 convened a meeting of local community groups to determine a suitable public space to name in honour of the late Councillor. The overwhelming majority of feedback received from community groups favoured naming the waterfront trail, within the current Ward 44 boundaries, after Ron Moeser.

While the trail will continue to be part of the Waterfront Trail, the TransCanada Trail and the Pan Am Path, if approved, it would be officially referred to as the Ron Moeser Trail. This naming would be similar to the Martin Goodman Trail which similarly is part of these trail networks. In their review, Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have also confirmed the waterfront trail is an appropriate public space for honourific naming.

Background Information (City Council)
Member Motion MM43.2