June 22, 2018

Re: Toronto City Council Motion MM43.2

Mayor Tory and Members of Council,

The Centennial Community and Recreation Association (CCRA) has been the voice of the Centennial-Scarborough community in Ward 44 since 1949. We represent an area with more than 4,000 homes for whom we advocate and serve, as well as deliver a monthly newspaper to all of them.

Our Executive objects to City Council motion MM43.2, proposing that 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 Moeser.

We are concerned with the way Toronto City Council has overridden the policy for naming or renaming a city property after Ron Moeser. The City of Toronto Naming Policy explicitly states that: **Names of recent events or recently deceased individual may be considered after two years.** The decision to shortcut the naming or renaming process was made without public consultation.

Our current councillor Jim Hart is recommending that the jewel of our community, the Waterfront Trail, is the only option. We insist that city council adhere to the naming process and take the appropriate time to consult with the local community about this choice.

When the CCRA Executive learned of the expedited motion, we sent an email survey to subscribers in Centennial and the surrounding community, looking for a gauge of community opinion. Of 156
responses, only 27 respondents selected the option to name a portion of the Waterfront Trail after Ron Moeser. These results indicate to us that this decision demands more consideration because most respondents were not aware of the motion to name any property. In order for residents of Ward 44 to be consulted, we request that the matter be considered at a future date by the Scarborough Community Council following the timeline specified by City policy.

The CCRA agrees with the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel that the most appropriate memorial recognition for former Councillor Ron Moeser would be a new street within the ward. We also agree with them that parks should be named after prominent or historical citizens, geographic features or local communities. (The letter from the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel regarding the naming of public property is included on the following page.) In the event that motion MM43.2 is passed, the CCRA insists that only the trail outside of the Centennial boundaries be named. This would be the area east of Port Union Road or west of Meadowvale Road.

Sincerely,

Executive Members of the Centennial Community and Recreation Association

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**Letter from the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel**

The following resolution was approved at the April 10th meeting of the Scarborough Community Preservation Panel:

The Chairman reported a communication regarding the possibility of a public naming to honour former Ward 44 Councillor, the late Ron Moeser.

There was discussion regarding naming and renaming of streets, parks and other municipal areas to recognize community members. The general thought was that parks should be named after prominent or historical citizens, geographic features or local communities such as Adams Park, David and Mary Thomson Park or Port Union Waterfront Park. Further, parks, once named, should not be changed unless there are special or unique reasons to delete the original name.

Regarding naming municipal properties, areas such as community centres, municipal areas, etc., these should recognize prominent and long-standing heads of government such as Mel Lastman Square, Albert Campbell Square and Nathan Phillips Square.

All other memorial recognitions given to any long-standing community person whether in government or not should be considered for new street naming, but not the replacement of existing, historic street names unless there is a unique reason to change, such as a request by at least 75% of the residents of the street.

The committee thus decided that, in the case of Ward 44 former Councillor Ron Moeser, the most appropriate memorial recognition would be a new street within the Ward.

**BE IT RESOLVED**
“That the SCPP recommend that the new street under construction off Kingston Road, east of Morningside Avenue be named Ron Moeser Street.”

* the above letter has been attached to the body of this email for your convenience.