

Proposed Official Naming of Future Park at 250 Davenport Road

Date: August 22, 2019
To: Toronto and East York Community Council (TEYCC)
From: General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards: Ward 11 – University Rosedale

SUMMARY

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division is recommending that the future park located at 250 Davenport Road be named "Joseph Tough Park". The future park is located directly to the east of the TCHC Apartment building at 250 Davenport Road, between Bedford Road and Avenue Road. The recommended name meets the policy criteria in the Council-approved 'City of Toronto Property Naming Policy'.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation (PFR) recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council officially name the future park located at 250 Davenport Road, "Joseph Tough Park".

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At the meetings 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

PFR staff propose that the new park at 250 Davenport Road shall be named "Joseph Tough Park" in honour of a well-loved citizen who resided at 250 Davenport. The local Councillor supports the name and it is in compliance with the Council-approved "Property Naming Policy"

Public Consultation:

PFR staff consulted with the local Councillor, the residents of the TCHC building at 250 Davenport Road and staff at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto to establish a shortlist of four park names: "Joseph Tough Park" honours a well-loved deceased resident of 250 Davenport. Joseph was nominated by his fellow residents; "Gete – Onigaming Park" after the Ojibwe name for the historic portage route along Davenport Road; "Anne Burgess Park" honours another respected deceased tenant of 250 Davenport Road. Anne was nominated by her fellow residents; and "Spirit Place Park" to honour the memories of residents of 250 Davenport that have passed on and who now rest with the Creator.

The four shortlisted names were included in an online survey conducted by Parks, Forestry and Recreation between July 11 and July 23, 2019. There were 172 respondents to the survey.

"Joseph Tough Park" received 59 votes, which was 36 per cent of the respondents. The next most popular name was "Gete – Onigaming Park", which received 45 votes, accounting for 26 per cent of the respondents.

Joseph Tough (May 9, 1933 - August 10, 2015) was an active and respected tenant of 250 Davenport. Joe was born in Toronto and spent many years as a dance studio owner in Montreal. He lived a happy life and helped many people as a dance teacher, informal addictions counsellor and church treasurer. He was a kind, gentle and funny man and loved all living things. Joe was an avid reader and a walking encyclopedia. His many long stories and sense of humor made everyone laugh and learn.

The proposed official name "Joseph Tough Park" is supported by the local Councillor and meets the policy criteria in 'City of Toronto Property Naming Policy'.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Janie Romoff
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

ATTACHMENTS

None.