

Request to Rename "Clanton Park" to "Elie Wiesel Park"

Date: May 20, 2020

To: North York Community Council

From: General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Wards: Ward 6 – York - Centre

SUMMARY

On June 18, 2019, a request was made by City Council through item MM8.33, to explore the feasibility of renaming Clanton Park, located at 30 Palm Drive, to Elie Wiesel Park. Property naming and renaming are a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division has reviewed the Council-approved City of Toronto Property Naming Policy and found that this naming proposal meets the policy criteria and process.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that Clanton Park, located at 30 Palm Drive, be renamed to Elie Wiesel Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that:

1. North York Community Council adopt the renaming of Clanton Park, located at 30 Palm Drive, to Elie Wiesel Park.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of June 18, 2019, City Council directed the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to investigate the feasibility of renaming "Clanton Park", located at 30 Palm Drive, to "Elie Wiesel Park" and report back to North York Community Council with a recommendation based on the criteria and process outlined in the Property Naming Policy (MM8.33)

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.MM8.33>

COMMENTS

Elie Wiesel was an internationally recognized author, teacher and humanitarian. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986 for his work in defending the oppressed and spreading peace around the world. His lived experiences of the Holocaust have earned him notable international recognition and awards including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986 for his work in defending the oppressed and spreading peace around the world. The creation of the Elie Wiesel Award and the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity are continuing legacies of his contribution as a human rights champion.

Numerous Jewish schools and Synagogues in the prominently Jewish Clanton Park community frequently educate future youth about the importance of Elie Wiesel's work.

The current park name stems from the street address and can be renamed.

Public Consultation

In accordance with the City of Toronto, Property Naming Policy, Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff produced and posted a temporary sign in the park advising the local community and parks users of the request to rename Clanton Park to Elie Wiesel Park. The sign requested that anyone interested send comments and feedback from August 30 to October 14, 2019. Parks, Forestry and Recreation received 12 responses, where 75% majority supported the renaming request detailing Elie Wiesel's impact to the local community.

CONTACT

Donna Kovachis, Interim Director, Parks, Tel: 416-392-7911, Email: Donna.Kovachis@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Janie Romoff
General Manager, Parks Forestry and Recreation