

Township of South Stormont
ACTION REQUEST – DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION
Parks and Recreation Department



To: Council
From: Kevin Amelotte, Director of Parks and Recreation
Date of Meeting: September 18, 2019
Subject: Commemorative Naming Policy

Recommendation:

Recommendation to be prepared for future Council meeting based on input received.

Background:

In 2018, Council directed staff to create a Commemorative Naming Policy prior to considering a request to name the Ingleside Community Park (60 Farran Drive, Ingleside) after a specific individual. Subsequently, By-law No. 2018-052 was created and approved.

Council directed staff to advertise a nomination period for the naming of the Ingleside Community Park using the nomination form created as part of the Policy. After receiving several nominations, concerns were expressed about the process undertaken and clarity of the nomination procedure. As a result, Council deferred the decision until the Policy could be further reviewed.

Concerns expressed following the nomination period for the naming of the Ingleside Community Park include:

- The policy and nomination form do not clearly identify options for the commemorative naming of a Township asset to include a significant event or a general name that is not specific to an individual.
- Advertising the nomination of a Township Asset as a “contest” creates an opportunity for multiple opinions, it could also divide the community and create a sense of resentment from individuals whose nominations were not selected.
- Nominations received for the Ingleside Community Park included names of individuals that were still living in the community and also those who are deceased. Trying to determine the most appropriate and deserving name for this purpose is a difficult decision that potentially could create a negative sentiment within the community.

Notwithstanding Street Names, the most recent Commemorative Naming of a Township asset was done in 2011 following a request from the Cornwall Township Historical Society to name the park in St. Andrews West the "Simon Fraser Community Park" after the Canadian explorer of the early 1800's. Since this time, a formal request was received in 2018 for the naming of the Ingleside Community Park, and an informal request in 2019 for the naming of the park in Lakeview Heights.

A copy of the Key Information Report dated September 26, 2018 concerning the re-naming of the Ingleside Community Park is attached for Council's information.