

**Subject: Commemorative Naming Proposal – Mary Tsai Park**

**File Number: ACS2023-RCF-GEN-0010**

**Report to Community Services Committee on 24 October 2023**

**and Council 8 November 2023**

**Submitted on September 29, 2023 by Emily Baxter, Manager, Business and  
Technical Support Services, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services  
Department**

**Contact Person: Katie O’Sullivan, Strategic Support Coordinator, Business and  
Technical Support Services**

**613-580-2424 x 43113, [Katie.OSullivan@ottawa.ca](mailto:Katie.OSullivan@ottawa.ca)**

**Ward: Capital (17)**

**Objet : Proposition de nom commémoratif – Parc Mary-Tsai**

**Numéro de dossier : ACS2023-RCF-GEN-0010**

**Rapport présenté au Comité des services communautaires**

**Rapport soumis le 24 octobre 2023**

**et au Conseil le 8 novembre 2023**

**Soumis le 2023-09-29 par Emily Baxter, Gestionnaire, Services de soutien  
technique et aux activités, Direction générale des loisirs, de la culture et des  
installations**

**Personne ressource : Katie O’Sullivan, Coordinatrice du soutien stratégique,  
Services de soutien technique et aux activités**

**613-580-2424 poste 43113, [Katie.Osullivan@ottawa.ca](mailto:Katie.Osullivan@ottawa.ca)**

**Quartier : Capitale (17)**

## **REPORT RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the Community Services Committee recommend Council approve the proposal to name the preschool park located at 175 Third Avenue, Glebe Community Centre, “Mary Tsai Park”.

## **RECOMMANDATION(S) DU RAPPORT**

Que le Comité des services communautaires recommande au Conseil d'approuver la proposition visant à ce que le parc de maternelle situé au 175, avenue Third (Centre communautaire Glebe), soit nommé « Parc Mary-Tsai » ,

## **BACKGROUND**

The [Commemorative Naming Policy](#), approved by City Council on July 24, 2002, as amended, outlines the criteria and process for commemoratively naming municipal streets, parks and facilities (or parts thereof).

The proposed name has been reviewed against the policy criteria, for potential issues regarding 9-1-1 response, and whether there is an existing commemoration of the same nomination. As there were no issues of concern, the Commemorative Naming Committee (“CNC”) met to review the formal application and proposal and provided an initial approval based on policy criteria and information provided by the nominator. To ensure there was community support for the commemorative naming proposal, staff initiated a 30-day public consultation phase.

Following the consultation process, the CNC reviewed public feedback and made a final recommendation on the nomination, followed by consideration by the appropriate Standing Committee and City Council.

It is noted that on February 8, 2023, Ottawa City Council approved a motion to pause the Commemorative Naming Program to allow for a full program and policy review. The review is intended to strengthen the City’s approach to commemoration and outline a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive process that reflects the values of the City of Ottawa.

Commemorative naming applications that were received and vetted prior to the moratorium, including this nomination, are able to proceed for consideration and are not subject to the moratorium.

## **DISCUSSION**

Kate McCartney, on behalf of the Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group, submitted an application to commemorate Mary Tsai, as described in Document 1. Under the proposal, the pre-school park located at 175 Third Avenue, Glebe Community Centre, will be named the “Mary Tsai Park”.

The CNC met on May 25, 2023, to review the application and endorsed the proposed name under the following criterion:

- The nominated individual shall have provided extensive community service and has an extraordinary community service record.

Following the CNCs endorsement of the application, and in accordance with the Council-approved Commemorative Naming Policy, the proposed commemorative name entered a 30-day public consultation.

In cases where opposition is received, which occurred during the public consultation period for “Mary Tsai Park”, the Council-approved Commemorative Naming Policy states that the CNC must reconvene to determine the opposition’s validity before proceeding with a report to the appropriate Standing Committee and Council.

The CNC was reconvened on September 29, 2023, and recommended that the report proceed to Committee and Council.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial costs associated with purchasing and installing a plaque are provided through the operating budget of the Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal impediments to the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

## **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)**

The Ward Councillor is supportive of this recommendation.

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) COMMENTS**

The Commemorative Naming Committee is supportive of this recommendation.

## **CONSULTATION**

An integral part of the Commemorative Naming Process is public consultation. On May 25, 2023, the City announced a 30-day public consultation on the proposed name. A public service announcement and the Ottawa.ca website provided relevant information on the proposal. CityNews Ottawa also shared the announcement on its [website](#).

The 30-day public consultation period ended on June 24, 2023. The Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department received 18 comments in support of the application and four comments in opposition.

As a result of the opposition, the CNC reconvened to review the summary of public comments and determined that the opposition failed to define a clear expression that the candidate in question did not meet the criteria for commemoration as outlined in this policy. Therefore, the CNC has approved the proposal to proceed to the Community Services Committee and Council.

### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

This is an administrative report to approve commemorative naming, and as such, there are no accessibility impacts.

Commemorative plaques are designed in accordance with the City of Ottawa's corporate design standards and meet accessibility requirements.

### **ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no asset implications associated with this report.

### **CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no climate implications associated with this report.

### **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Delegation of Authority implications associated with this report.

### **ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

### **INDIGENOUS, GENDER AND EQUITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Indigenous, gender and equity implications associated with this report.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

## **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

## **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no technology implications associated with this report.

## **TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

Not applicable.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Document 1 immediately follows the report.

## **DISPOSITION**

Following Council approval of the proposal, staff will work with the Ward Councillor on a commemorative plaque.

## Document 1

# Mary Tsai Park

NOMINEE: Mary Tsai NOMINATOR: Kate McCartney on behalf of the Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group	The nominated individual shall have provided extensive community service and has an extraordinary community service record.
To name the preschool park located at 175 Third Avenue, Glebe Community Centre, "Mary Tsai Park"	
Mary Tsai Park	Parc Mary-Tsai
Concurrence received February 6, 2023, from Councillor Menard to proceed.	

### **Mary Tsai Park (Ward 17 – Capital)**

In recognition of extensive community service, the City has been asked to name a preschool park, located at 175 Third Avenue, Glebe Community Centre, "Mary Tsai Park". Mary Tsai has been providing programs, services, and events for the greater Ottawa area. She was the recipient of the 2012 Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Award and has served as Executive Director of the Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group. Mary's commitment to community service has garnered the support of this commemorative naming from the Glebe Association, Glebe BIA, MP Yasir Naqvi, and more.

### **Parc Mary-Tsai (Quartier 17 – Capitale)**

La Ville a reçu une proposition en vue de nommer un nouveau parc situé au 175, avenue Third (Centre communautaire du Glebe), « Parc Mary-Tsai » en hommage aux nombreux services rendus à la communauté d'Ottawa. Mary Tsai offre des programmes, des services et des événements dans la grande région d'Ottawa. Elle a reçu la Médaille du jubilé de diamant de la reine Elizabeth II de 2012 et a été directrice générale du Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group. L'engagement de Mary envers la communauté lui a valu cette dénomination commémorative de la part de l'Association Glebe, de la ZAC du Glebe, du député Yasir Naqvi et d'autres.