

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Community and Protective Services Committee
Comité des services communautaires et de protection
29 August 2019 / 29 août 2019**

**and Council
et au Conseil**

11 September 2019 / 11 septembre 2019

**Submitted on July 31, 2019
Soumis le 31 juillet 2019**

**Submitted by
Soumis par:**

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Ward: ALTA VISTA (18)

File Number: ACS2019-RCF-GEN-0011

SUBJECT: Commemorative Naming Proposal – Rabbi Bulka Kindness Park

OBJET: Proposition de nom commémoratif – parc de la Bonté rabbin Bulka

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend Council approve the proposal to name the Featherston Park, located at 2330 Virginia, “Rabbi Bulka Kindness Park”

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité des services communautaires et de protection recommande au Conseil d’approuver la proposition visant à ce que le parc Featherston, situé au 2330, promenade Virginia, sera le « parc de la Bonté rabbin Bulka »

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).

Where the naming of a street, municipal park, parts of a park, facility, or parts of a facility is being requested, at least one of the following criteria shall apply:

- Demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the City of Ottawa, the Province of Ontario and / or Canada;
- Provided extensive community service, or who have an extraordinary community service record;
- Worked to foster equality and reduce discrimination;
- Where the nominated individual is a current City employee, the individual shall have made an outstanding contribution to the City of Ottawa outside of his/her capacity and duties as a City employee or they may be recognized for their exceptional service once they are no longer a City employee;
- The nominated individual has made a significant financial contribution to a park or facility and the contribution significantly benefits the community that the park or facility serves (i.e. the park or facility may not have otherwise been possible without the financial assistance);
- The nominated name has historical significance to the community, City of Ottawa, Province of Ontario, or Canada.

Any member of the public or City Council may submit a name to the City for consideration through a formal Commemorative Naming application and supporting material.

The proposed name is reviewed against criteria such as potential issues for 9-1-1 or whether there is an existing commemoration for the same nomination. If there are no issues of concern, the Commemorative Naming Committee (“CNC”) will meet to review the formal application and proposal. The CNC membership is the City Clerk and Solicitor, the General Manager, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development, the General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services, the General Manager, Public Works and Environmental Services, the Mayor and the Ward Councillor, or their respective designates.

As part of the process, the CNC provides an initial approval based on the policy’s criteria and the information provided by the nominator. To ensure there is community support for the choice, staff will initiate a 30-day public consultation phase. Where the proposal is to rename a park or facility, the Policy requires a 60-day public consultation phase.

Following the consultation process, the CNC reviews the public feedback and makes a final recommendation on the nomination, followed by considered by the appropriate Standing Committee and City Council. If no public objections are received, the Committee and Council will consider the proposal directly, without the need for a CNC meeting.

DISCUSSION

Bram Bregman, on behalf of the Congregation Machzikei Hadas, has submitted an application to commemorate Dr. Rabbi Reuven Bulka, as described in Document 1. Under the proposal, the Featherston Park, located at 2330 Virginia, “Rabbi Bulka Kindness Park”;

The CNC met on June 26, 2019 to review the application and endorsed the proposed name under the following criterion:

- The nominated individual has demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the City of Ottawa, the Province of Ontario and/or Canada.

In accordance with the Council-approved Commemorative Naming Policy, in cases where there is no objection received during the public consultation period, a report can

be submitted directly to the appropriate Standing Committee and Council, without reconvening a CNC meeting.

As the public consultation period did not result in any objections, the Community and Protective Services Committee will consider the “Rabbi Bulka Kindness” proposal directly.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

CONSULTATION

An integral part of the Commemorative Naming Process is public consultation. On June 26, 2019, the City announced a 30-day public consultation on the proposed name. A public service announcement, the City’s Twitter account, and the Ottawa.ca website provided relevant information on the proposal.

The 30-day public consultation period ended on July 26, 2019. The Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department received 85 comments in support of the application.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

For over 50 years, Dr. Reuven Bulka has worked tirelessly on behalf of our community. His acts of kindness, unity and reconciliation continue to serve as an inspiration to all who seek to improve their communities.

I enthusiastically support this application without reservation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial costs associated with purchasing a plaque and/or hosting a naming ceremony are provided through operating budget of the Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

The report recommendation does not have any accessibility impacts.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Not applicable.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 – Summary of Proposal: Rabbi Bulka Kindness (Ward 18 – Alta Vista)

DISPOSITION

Following Council approval of the proposal, staff will work with the Ward Councillor to coordinate a ceremonial event to unveil a plaque.

Document 1

Rabbi Bulka Kindness (Ward 18 – Alta Vista)

In recognition of his significant public service and extraordinary impact both locally in the community of Alta Vista, and Capital Region, the City of Ottawa has received a proposal to re-name Featherston Park to “Rabbi Bulka Kindness Park”. Dr. Reuven Bulka has been the Rabbi of the Congregation Machzikei Hadas since 1967, located adjacent the park on Virginia Drive since 1973. Rabbi Bulka is the founder of Kind Canada, an Ottawa based charity committed to spreading kindness; Member of Community Advisory Board for Ottawa Integrative Cancer Centre; and Chair of the Trillium Gift of Life Network. Past roles include Vice-Chair of Pallium Canada, a charity based in Ottawa dedicated to improving palliative care in Canada; Chair of Bruyere Hospice Ottawa West Campaign that raised \$6M to build a hospice in Kanata; and Chair of the Courage Campaign for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, which raised \$25 million for cancer care. Previous honors received by Rabbi Bulka include Membership to the Order of Canada, Key to the City of Ottawa, and the Mayor’s Award for Community Service. This commemorative naming proposal seeks to celebrate Rabbi Bulka’s remarkable dedication and service to the community for the past 52 years, while his kindness continues to inspire.