

**Report to  
Rapport au:**

**Community and Protective Services Committee  
Comité des services communautaires et de protection  
20 August 2020 / 20 août 2020**

**and Council  
et au Conseil  
26 August 2020 / 26 août 2020**

**Submitted on July 23, 2020  
Soumis le 23 juillet 2020**

**Submitted by  
Soumis par:**

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**Ward:** ALTA VISTA (18)

**File Number:** ACS2020-RCF-GEN-0007

**SUBJECT: Commemorative Naming Proposal – WRENS Way**

**OBJET: Proposition de nom commémoratif – voie WRENS**

#### **REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend Council  
approve the proposal to name the Heron Corridor, located at 1612 Kilborn  
Avenue, “WRENS Way”**

## **RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT**

**Que le Comité des services communautaires et de protection recommande au Conseil d'approuver la proposition visant à ce que nommer « voie Wrens » le couloir du chemin Heron, situé au 1612, avenue Kilborn**

## **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**

Michael Kilpatrick, on behalf of the Alta Vista Community Association, submitted an application to commemorate the Women’s Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS) or “WRENS”, as described in Document 1. Under the proposal, the Heron Corridor, located at 1612 Kilborn Avenue, will be named “WRENS Way”.

The CNC met on January 29, 2020 to review the application and endorsed the proposed name under the following criterion:

- The nominated name has historical significance to the community, City of Ottawa, Province of Ontario 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 resulted in 3 comments in opposition, the CNC reconvened to receive the summary of public comments on the proposal. The Commemorative Naming Committee approved the proposal to proceed to the

Community and Protective Services Committee, which will consider the “WRENS Way” 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 January 29, 2020, 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 February 27, 2020. The Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department received 50 comment(s) in support of the application and 3 comment(s) in opposition.

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

The name was chosen as a result of an online community consultation and with the support of the Alta Vista Community Association. I am fully supportive of this recommendation.

### **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 the 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: WRENS Way (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

**WRENS Way (Ward 18 – Alta Vista)**

In recognition of historical significance and impact, the City has been asked to name the Heron Corridor, “WRENS Way”. The new name for the Heron Corridor is in honour of the Women’s Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS) or “WRENS” as they were popularly known that served during WWII. The greenspace will also honour the other WWII women's divisions of the armed services including the Nursing Sisters (Bluebirds), Royal Canadian Air Force - Women’s Division (RCAF-WD), and Canadian Women’s Army Corps (CWAC).

The women in these services performed essential duties in the war effort and many lost their lives protecting and serving. This naming is a testament of our pledge to remember the women that served in WWII and continue to serve Canadians today.