

Report to/Rapport au :

Community and Protective Services Committee
Comité des services communautaires et de protection

and Council / et au Conseil

June 7, 2012
7 juin 2012

**Submitted by/Soumis par : M. Rick O'Connor
City Clerk and Solicitor/Greffier et Chef du contentieux**

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KNOXDALE-MERIVALE (9)

Ref N°: ACS2012-CMR-CCB-0042

**SUBJECT: COMMEMORATIVE NAMING PROPOSAL – HOWARD DARWIN
CENTENNIAL ARENA**

**OBJET : PROPOSITION SUR LES DÉNOMINATIONS COMMÉMORATIVES –
ARÉNA CENTENNIAL HOWARD-DARWIN**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That Community and Protective Services Committee recommend that Council approve the proposal to rename the Merivale Centennial Arena, located at 1765 Merivale Road, the “Howard Darwin Centennial Arena”.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité des services communautaires et de protection recommande à son tour au Conseil municipal d’approuver la proposition de renommer l’Aréna Merivale Centennial, située au 1765, chemin Merivale, « Aréna Centennial Howard-Darwin ».

BACKGROUND

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

With respect to criteria, a commemorative name honours individuals who are (or have been) citizens of the City of Ottawa or have made a specific contribution to the City of Ottawa and:

- 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. The process is initiated through submission of a Commemorative Naming application and support material. The policy provides a process for the nomination of the following: a name to be added to the commemorative names reserve list for future consideration; a name for a particular venue selected by the applicant; a name for a venue that is presently named.

As part of the process, the Commemorative Naming Committee—consisting of applicable City staff, the Mayor and affected Members of Council—provides an initial approval based on the policy’s criteria and the information provided by the nominator. Staff is then directed to ensure there is community support for the choice by initiating a 60-day consultation phase. Following the consultation process, the Commemorative Naming Committee reviews the public feedback and makes a final recommendation on the nomination, which is subsequently considered by the appropriate Standing Committee and City Council.

Membership of the Commemorative Naming Committee is as follows:

- The Mayor (or designate)
- The Councillor in whose ward the park or facility or part thereof is located
- The City Clerk (or designate)
- The Deputy City Manager, City Operations (or designate)
- The Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Services and Community Sustainability (or designate)

DISCUSSION

An application for the commemoration of the late Howard Darwin was submitted by Jeff Darwin, on behalf of the Darwin family, to name the Merivale Centennial Arena, located at 1765 Merivale Road, the “Howard Darwin Centennial Arena”.

The Commemorative Naming Committee reviewed the application and endorsed the proposed name under the following criterion:

- *Demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the City of Ottawa, the Province of Ontario and / or Canada;*

Supporting information about Howard Darwin is found in the attached Document 1.

Following the initial endorsement of the application, the public consultation process (outlined below) was carried out for the mandated 60-day period. Following the consultation process, the Commemorative Naming Committee reconvened to review all comments received. At its meeting of 11 May 2012, the Commemorative Naming Committee endorsed the naming application and directed staff to forward with a recommendation to the Community and Protective Services Committee and City Council.

At its meeting of 11 May 2012, the Commemorative Naming Committee reviewed the feedback from the 60-day public consultation period.

By the end of day on April 23, 2012, the City Clerk's Office had received 143 responses to this proposal. A summary of the responses received are noted below:

Summary of Responses – “Howard Darwin Arena”	
Support a commemoration for the nominee:	128
Support the proposed location for commemoration:	120
Oppose a commemoration for the nominee:	4
Oppose the proposed location for commemoration:	21

After the deadline, the City Clerk's Office received two (2) additional comments in support of the proposal.

At the aforementioned 11 May 2012 meeting, Councillor Egli noted that in his conversations with the community, there was a minority of residents who had one of two concerns. Some residents were concerned that the Merivale Centennial Arena was not “significant enough” to commemorate Howard Darwin. Most of these residents, however, became comfortable with the proposal when they learned that the Darwin family had suggested it. The second group expressed a desire to preserve the name “Merivale Centennial Arena” due to its historical significance related to the 100th anniversary of Canadian Confederation. Both the Merivale Centennial Arena and the Bell Centennial Arena were built by the Township of Nepean as a result of a federal grant to promote Canada's Centennial celebrations.

COMMEMORATIVE NAMING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Wishing to commemorate Howard Darwin while maintaining the historical significance of the existing name, Councillor Egli introduced the following motion:

Moved by Councillor Egli:

Re: Howard Darwin Commemoration Proposal

WHEREAS Howard Darwin was a life-long resident of Ottawa, including Ottawa's west end, who enjoyed a long and successful career in local business; and

WHEREAS Howard Darwin dedicated his life to amateur sport through the Ottawa Nepean Canadians Sports Club, the Boys and Girls Club, the Beaver Boxing Club, and minor sports organizations throughout our community; and

WHEREAS in 1967, Howard Darwin brought major junior hockey to Ottawa, establishing the iconic Ottawa 67's Hockey Club, and in 1993, brought AAA baseball and the Ottawa Lynx Baseball Club to the nation's capital, advocating for the construction of the Ottawa baseball stadium; and

WHEREAS Howard Darwin received numerous awards recognizing his outstanding contributions to Ottawa, including the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal (1977), the Ottawa Business Person of the Year (1992), the Confederation of Canada 125th Anniversary Medal (1992), induction into the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame (1998), the Ottawa Sports Figure of the Century Award (2000), the Mayor's Cup for Outstanding Contribution to Sport in Ottawa (2009); and

WHEREAS Howard Darwin demonstrated excellence and exceptional service to the citizens of the City of Ottawa and his achievements have historical significance, satisfying the City of Ottawa's Commemorative Naming Policy criteria; and

WHEREAS the Commemorative Naming Committee conducted a 60-day public consultation process on a proposal to rename the Merivale Centennial Arena, located at 1765 Merivale Road, the "Howard Darwin Arena"; and

WHEREAS the Merivale Centennial Arena was constructed in celebration of Canada's Centennial in 1967, the 100th anniversary of Canadian Confederation; and

WHEREAS the feedback from the public consultation was overwhelmingly in support for the proposed commemoration for Howard Darwin; and

WHEREAS there is a desire in the community to remember the historical significance of Canada's Centennial and the contributions of the community leaders who were instrumental to the construction of the Merivale Centennial Arena;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the name proposed to commemorate Howard Darwin be amended to be the “Howard Darwin Centennial Arena”.

CARRIED.

The Commemorative Naming Committee unanimously “carried” this amendment to the proposed name and voted to submit the proposed name to Community and Protective Services Committee and Council.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

CONSULTATION

In keeping with the Commemorative Naming Policy, the proposal was subject to a 60-day public consultation period. The public consultation notice was placed on Ottawa.ca/namingottawa and circulated through a Public Service Announcement (including Twitter) on February 21, 2012. Residents were encouraged to provide their comments on the proposal by Monday, April 23, 2012.

Using his website, Councillor Egli also encouraged residents to provide feedback.

By the end of day on April 23, 2012, the City Clerk’s Office had received 143 responses to this proposal. A summary of the responses received are noted below:

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COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

Councillor Egli supports the commemoration of Howard Darwin. He also supports preserving the word “Centennial” in the facility’s name, which has historical meaning to the former City of Nepean and Canada.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

City Clerk and Solicitor Department

Financial expenditures associated with this commemorative naming proposal for advertisements and the costs of purchasing a plaque and/or hosting a naming ceremony are provided through the City Clerk's operating budget.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department

There are available funds in the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department's 2012 budget for signage.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this proposal.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no technology implications associated with this report.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

N/A

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

DOCUMENT 1 – Howard Darwin Commemorative Naming Public Notice (English and French)

DISPOSITION

Following Council approval of the Howard Darwin Centennial Arena commemorative naming proposal, staff will work with the Ward Councillor to coordinate a ceremonial event to unveil a plaque.

Howard Darwin Arena

In recognition of the late Howard Darwin's contributions to the community, the City of Ottawa has been asked to rename the Merivale Arena at 1765 Merivale Road, the Howard Darwin Arena.

Howard Darwin enjoyed a long and successful career in business, including professional sports.

Born and raised in Ottawa, Howard Darwin first made his mark in Ottawa's local business community as owner of Howard Darwin Jewelers. He later demonstrated his flair for innovation when he established Ottawa Cablevision in 1965, the first cable television provider in Ottawa.

Howard Darwin is perhaps best known as a sports team owner. In 1967, he brought major junior hockey to Ottawa, establishing the iconic Ottawa 67's Hockey Club. In 1993, Darwin brought AAA baseball and the Ottawa Lynx team to the nation's capital, while also vocally advocating for the construction of the Ottawa baseball stadium.

Over the course of his life, Howard Darwin was honoured with numerous awards including the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal (1977), the Ottawa Business Person of the Year (1992), the Confederation of Canada 125th Anniversary Medal (1992), induction into the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame (1998), and Ottawa Sports Figure of the Century Award (2000). In 2009, Howard Darwin was posthumously awarded the Mayor's Cup for Outstanding Contribution to Sport in Ottawa.

If you would like to make any comments regarding this proposal or obtain further information, please contact:

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Comments on this proposal must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, 2012.

Aréna Howard Darwin

En reconnaissance de la contribution faite à la collectivité par le regretté Howard Darwin, la Ville d'Ottawa s'est fait demander de renommer l'aréna Merivale (1765, chemin Merivale) « aréna Howard-Darwin ».

Howard Darwin a connu une longue et brillante carrière dans le monde des affaires, du sport professionnel notamment.

Il est né et a grandi à Ottawa, et s'est illustré dans le milieu des affaires d'Ottawa en tant que propriétaire de la bijouterie Howard Darwin Jewelers. Il a plus tard fait la preuve de son sens de l'innovation en fondant Ottawa Cablevision en 1965, le premier câblodistributeur de la capitale.

M. Darwin est surtout connu en tant que propriétaire d'équipes sportives. En effet, en 1967, il a fait d'Ottawa une ville de hockey junior majeur en y fondant l'emblématique club de hockey les 67 d'Ottawa. En 1993, il fait découvrir le baseball de niveau AAA à la ville en mettant sur pied l'équipe des Lynx dans la capitale nationale, et fait campagne en faveur de la construction du stade de baseball d'Ottawa.

Au cours de sa vie, Howard Darwin a reçu de nombreux prix, notamment la Médaille du jubilé de la reine Élisabeth (1977), le prix de la personne d'affaires de l'année d'Ottawa (1992), la Médaille commémorative du 125e anniversaire de la Confédération du Canada (1992) et le Prix d'Ottawa de la personnalité sportive du siècle (2000), en plus d'être intronisé au Temple de la renommée des sports d'Ottawa en 1998. En 2009, M. Darwin a reçu à titre posthume la Coupe du maire pour sa contribution exceptionnelle au sport à Ottawa.

Pour faire part de vos commentaires ou obtenir de plus amples renseignements à ce sujet, veuillez communiquer avec :

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Les commentaires sur cette proposition doivent être reçus avant 16 h 30, le samedi 21 avril 2012.