

September 5, 2018

To: Members  
Regina Planning Commission

Re: Supplemental Report for Civic Naming Committee Guidelines Review

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### RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received and filed.

### CONCLUSION

At the May 2, 2018 meeting of the Regina Planning Commission (RPC), the following motion was made:

“That the Administration return with a supplementary report to the September 5, 2018 meeting, after engaging in further consultation with Regina & Regina Home Builders’ Association.”

The Administration met with representatives from the RRHBA and Harvard Developments on June 20, 2018. A representative from RRHBA that met with the administration stated that a letter would be drafted representing the perspectives of the RRHBA and its membership on the Civic Naming Committee Guideline Review. The letter was received on July 11, 2018 and is attached as Appendix A.

### BACKGROUND

At the May 2, 2018 RPC meeting, Administration brought forward report *RPC18-23, Civic Naming Committee Guideline Review*. The Committee directed Administration to return with a supplementary report to the September 5, 2018 meeting of the RPC after engaging in further consultation with the RRHBA. Administration committed to conducting further engagement with the RRHBA.

After the May 2, 2018 RPC request, Administration met with representatives from the RRHBA and Harvard Developments on June 20, 2018. Administration had requested that the RRHBA bring any members that would like to speak about the issue. There were 2 representatives of the Administration, one representative from RRHBA and one representative from Harvard Developments present at the June 20 meeting.

### DISCUSSION

Appendix A outlines the perspectives of the RRHBA and its membership on the Civic Naming Committee Guideline Review.

Some of the RRHBA perspectives support the recommendations in *RPC18-23*, including prohibiting duplicate or soundalike names for safety reasons; utilizing street and park naming as an opportunity for diversity and reconciliation; establishing policy for street or park renaming; and coordination with regional partners.

RRHBA expressed concern over:

- providing naming “targets” for use of names from the backlog;
- names that may be perceived to have negative attributes;
- exclusion of “sponsored parks” from the policy;
- criteria for defining an Indigenous name;
- delays in the development and planning process caused by requiring approval for each street and park name;
- clarity and transparency within the Civic Naming Committee process

Several issues identified by the RRHBA regarding transparency and clarity will be addressed once a new guideline is passed. The RRHBA identified frustration with the current naming list and its design; a lack of clarity and transparency about how the Civic Naming Committee completes its duties and makes decisions; delays that have been caused because new applications to the Civic Naming Committee have been held in abeyance pending a new guideline; and an inadequate web presence for the Civic Naming Committee on Regina.ca

As part of the Communications Strategy for *RPC18-23*, many of these concerns will be addressed by the Administration, with a renewal of the Regina.ca content for the Civic Naming Committee. Once a new guideline has been passed by RPC, the freeze on new applications by the Administration will be lifted and a Civic Naming Committee meeting will be held in late 2018 to hear all naming requests that have been held since the start of the guideline review process.

There are a few suggestions in Appendix A that are not addressed in *RPC18-23*. The RRHBA suggests several possibilities for addressing the backlog of names on the naming list. These include: rotating names of parks on a 10-year basis; naming features within a park for honourees on the naming list; utilizing theme naming to honour multiple honourees at once; and culling the current list of names.

With regard to the suggestions, the Administration notes that rotating the names of parks on a 10-year basis would have an impact on wayfinding and health and safety. Naming features within a park is beyond the scope of the Civic Naming Committee. The Civic Naming Committee’s mandate is to name streets and parks only. Theme naming to honour multiple honourees and culling the list of names are the two possibilities that could be explored further by the Civic Naming Committee.

A particular suggestion made by RRHBA in Appendix A and not addressed in *RPC18-23* is to create two positions on the Civic Naming Committee for “industry representation”, in order to “ensure transparency, remove bias and create better understanding for the Development Industry and the City of Regina of the impacts and responsibilities of the Civic Naming Committee”

The Civic Naming Committee is an administrative committee and does not have public members. While members of the development community have an interest in the Civic Naming Committee's decisions, so do other members of the community, including but not limited to Indigenous people, members of regional partnership organizations, community associations, and people who have nominated an honouree's name to the Civic Naming Committee. All Civic Naming Committee meetings are public and may be attended by interested parties. Members of the public, including the development community, have requested to attend and speak as delegations on multiple occasions in the past. Interested parties are notified of meetings and advised of decisions as with any other committee.

## RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS

### Financial Implications

None as to this report.

### Environmental Implications

Public health and safety are directly affected by street and park naming due to the impact on response times for first responders (Regina Police Service, Fire & Protective Services, and Emergency Medical Services).

### Policy and/or Strategic Implications

The recommendations in this report support Design Regina – Official Community Plan and the supplemental Regina Cultural Plan. The Regina Cultural Plan Objective "Commemorate and Celebrate Regina's Cultural Heritage" identified the Action "Ensure that the naming of streets, parks and other civic assets is done to celebrate Regina's unique history and cultural diversity, and that it tells the whole story of Regina." This Action was identified as a Mid Term Action (4-7 years).

The recommendations in this report address Call to Action 79 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, "to develop a framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration".

### Other Implications

The City of Regina has regional partners with autonomous street and park naming powers, including but not limited to Provincial Capital Commission, Regina Airport Authority, University of Regina (as part of Provincial Capital Commission), Sakimay First Nations, Global Transportation Hub and Rural Municipality of Sherwood. Many of these partners have expressed a desire to harmonize street and park naming with the City of Regina to aid in health, safety and wayfinding. The Administration has spoken to representatives from these regional partners in the past and will continue to do so on an ongoing basis as needed to harmonize naming within the City of Regina and region.

### Accessibility Implications

Public health and safety are directly impacted by street and park naming due to the impact on the response times of first responders.

### COMMUNICATIONS

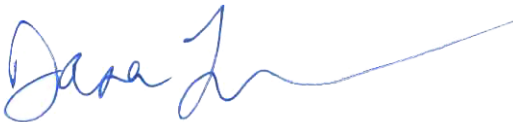
Changes to the Civic Naming Committee Guideline will be communicated to the public through the following mediums:

- Earned media (news release)
- City of Regina social media (Facebook/Twitter posts to communicate changes, and posts that will spotlight select individuals on the street naming list and link to Regina.ca content)
- Regina.ca (the primary source of information for Regina residents)
- Email (interested parties)

### DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Pursuant to section 100 of *The Cities Act*, the Regina Planning Commission is delegated the authority from Council to interpret and approved the policy and guidelines for names of streets, city facilities and parks.

Respectfully submitted,



Dana Turgeon, Historical Information & Preservation Supervisor  
Office of the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Nicol, City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk

Report prepared by:  
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