



**Report**  
**Staff Report**  
 The Corporation of the City of Brampton  
 12/11/2024

**Date:** 2024-11-26

**Subject:** **Approval of Various Park Naming Requests (RM 78/2023 & RM 83/2023)**

**Contact:** Ed Fagan, Director, Parks Maintenance & Forestry

**Report number:** Community Services-2024-977

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report from Ed Fagan, Director, Parks Maintenance & Forestry, dated November 26, 2024 to the City Council Meeting of December 11, 2024, re: **Approval of Various Park Naming Requests (RM 78/2023 & RM 83/2023)**, be received;
2. That the following administratively named parks be permanently named as recommended, subject to successful completion of the public commenting period:
  - i. New Park (Ward 6) to be named Father Roman Galadza;
  - ii. New Park (Ward 6) to be named Jaswant Singh Khaira;
  - iii. Native Landing Parkette (Ward 5) to be renamed Bangan Parkette;
  - iv. Watchman Park (Ward 8) to be renamed Norman Duncan Park; and
  - v. Whitewash Parkette (Ward 5) to be renamed Mashkiki Parkette.
3. That upon successful completion of the public commenting period, staff be directed to install appropriate park signage and undertake notifications for addressing, mapping, operations and emergency services regarding the new park names.

**OVERVIEW:**

- **This report seeks direction to rename five parks, including Referred Matter (RM) items RM 78/2023 and RM 83/2023, based on public submissions and/or Council direction.**
- **Staff estimate the cost for the five parks currently identified for renaming will cost approximately \$4,000 (\$800 per park renaming). Sufficient funding is available for this initiative in the Parks Maintenance & Forestry division operating budget.**

- **The City of Brampton's Asset Naming Policy is currently under review by internal departments, with recommendations and outcomes expected to be presented to Council in Q2 2025.**

## **BACKGROUND:**

Council has directed staff to rename various parks, in accordance with the City of Brampton Asset Naming Policy. This includes RM 78/2023 for potential commemorative opportunities for Father Roman Galadza and RM 83/2023 for the renaming of Native Landing Parkette and Whitewash Parkette.

## **CURRENT SITUATION:**

The City of Brampton's Asset Naming Policy is currently under review by internal departments. Staff will report back to Council Q2 2025 in response to the approved Council motion CW257-2023 from the June 21, 2023 Council Meeting to address existing names that are inconsistent with the City's policy and mosaic, in relation to its history and inclusivity as well as a process to rename assets such as streets/parks that are offensive, discriminatory or insensitive to Indigenous peoples.

In the interim, the following park naming requests have been brought forward for next steps.

### **Father Roman Galadza**

Ward 6 (RM 78/2023)

The Council motion CW412-2023 was brought forward at the November 15, 2023, Committee of Council requesting staff to report back on commemorative naming for the late Father Roman Galadza. For over 30 years, Father Roman Galadza made an impactful contribution to the city by establishing the parish of St. Elias the Prophet Ukrainian Catholic Church. His impact was also significant within the Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board, where he held roles as a religion teacher, music teacher and Chaplain over a distinguished career. In consultation with the Ward Council Reference Group, a proposal has been brought forward that a new park in Ward 6 be named Father Roman Galadza.

### **Jaswant Singh Khalra**

Ward 6

At the April 20, 2022 City Council Meeting, a staff report for various street and park naming requests was presented to Council for the approval of multiple commemorative names, including Jaswant Singh Kharla. Jaswant Singh Khalra was a prominent Indian Human Rights activist, who brought global awareness to the treatment of Sikhs in India's

Punjab state and for his impactful advocacy with the Canadian government in supporting the Canadian Sikh community. In consultation with community representatives, a proposal has been brought forward that a new park in Ward 6 be named Jaswant Singh Khalra Park to commemorate the human rights actions taken by Mr. Khalra.

### **Native Landing Parkette to Bangan Parkette**

Ward 5 (RM 83/2023)

At the Council Meeting of June 21, 2023 motion CW257-2023 was approved to address park names that are offensive, discriminatory or insensitive to Indigenous people and the diverse communities in Brampton. Staff was directed to proceed with next steps to rename Native Landing Parkette in consultation with the Brampton Indigenous community. In April 2024, the Equity Office conducted two focus group engagement sessions with the Indigenous Community to generate and select an appropriate name for the park. Bangan pronounced 'bun-gun' is an Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) word which translates into the English language as 'peaceful' and literally means 'it is quiet'. This name characterizes the setting of the parkette where people go to find a quiet time on park benches situated throughout the parkette.

### **Watchman Park to Norman Duncan Park**

Ward 8

At the January 2021 Committee of Council Meeting, Council received a park renaming delegation to commemorate the Duncan family. Council motion CW008-2021 was approved to add Norman Duncan Park to the City's master list of park names. The Duncans are a pioneering farming family that settled in Toronto Gore Township, now generally part of Ward 8, in 1881. Norman Duncan served on the Township Council from 1946 through 1953 and held the position of Reeve from 1950 to 1953. To commemorate Norman Duncan and his family's extensive residency and contributions for over 140 years within the City of Brampton, Watchman Park has been proposed to be renamed Norman Duncan Park in honor of the family, in consultation with family representatives.

### **Whitewash Parkette to Mashkiki Parkette**

Ward 5 (RM 83/2023)

Whitewash Parkette was also included in the CW257-2023 Council motion to address asset names that are offensive, discriminatory or insensitive. Staff was directed to proceed with next steps to rename Whitewash Parkette in consultation with the Brampton Indigenous community. In April 2024, the Equity Office conducted two focus group engagement sessions with the Indigenous Community to generate and select an appropriate name for the park. The proposed name for Whitewash Parkette is Mashkiki pronounced 'Mash-kee-kee'. This is an Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) word which translates into the English language as 'medicine' with a much deeper literal meaning of 'the strength of the earth'. This word describes the healing power that the earth provides for all of mankind through plant life and her energy.

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

### **Financial Implications:**

Staff estimate the cost for the 5 parks currently identified for renaming will cost approximately \$4,000 (\$800 per park renaming). Sufficient funding is available for this initiative in the Parks Maintenance & Forestry division operating budget.

### **Other Implications:**

#### **Communications Implications**

Upon approval of the selected park name, there will be a thirty (30) day Public Commentary period for residents to provide feedback on the Council approved renaming decision. The coordination of a ceremonial renaming event will commence after the public commentary period has concluded.

#### **Cultural Services Implications**

Based on Council direction from CW257-2023, which called for the potential inclusion of Indigenous artwork, staff reviewed Bangan Parkette and Mashkiki Parkette in Ward 5 and determined that both sites are suitable for inclusion in the 2025 My Neighbourhood Art Project. These parkettes will feature community-engaged, temporary public artworks, co-created through artist-led workshops.

Cultural Services will collaborate with focus groups from the park renaming process to shape the project. This initiative aligns with Brampton's Public Art Strategy, with a focus on Reconciliation and Indigenization. A total investment of \$50,000 has been allocated through 246860 – Public Art Investment.

## **STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

**Government & Leadership** Focusing on service excellence through the continued legacy of naming city assets after outstanding individuals, who have positively impacted the City of Brampton's image by shaping its history, diversity and citizenry.

## **CONCLUSION:**

This report provides details for the renaming of five parks including Referred Matters items RM 78/2023 and RM 83/2023, based on public submissions and/or Council direction.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

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Tonian Reid  
Coordinator, Parks Business Planning  
Parks Maintenance & Forestry

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Ed Fagan  
Director  
Parks Maintenance & Forestry

Approved by:

Approved by:

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Bill Boyes  
Commissioner  
Community Services

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Marlon Kallideen  
Chief Administrative Officer