

From: Kevin Montgomery
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:59 PM
To: Santos, Rowena - Councillor
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Correspondence Letter RE: Toby's Way

To Brampton Council members (and the residents of Brampton).

Thank you so much for your support during this incredibly difficult time. Since receiving Toby's terminal diagnosis in October, the city of Brampton (I'm fairly sure that's not an exaggeration, it was a lot of people) supported Toby and our family with food, gifts, and money to help relieve some pressure while Toby underwent his cancer treatment, and ultimately his pediatric palliative home care.

The words "thank you" do not go far enough in expressing our profound gratitude to everyone.

Councillor Santos reached out to me to suggest that a section of recreation trail could be named after Toby. Our family is thankful for this remarkably kind and thoughtful gesture.

The section of trail being suggested was one we would use to take Toby to Peel Village Park. As a toddler, he would be pushed in a stroller while his siblings ran ahead to the park. When he was old enough to run, we would let him run ahead with them. We would sometimes use our bicycles to visit the splash pad. It was a route that he took with his brother to get to school, W.G. Davis. It was also the route I used to take Toby home on my bicycle on what was his last day of school after he collapsed in gym class due to a backache that we would eventually learn was caused by a rare liver tumour: Fibrolamellar carcinoma.

After kicking around a few name ideas like "Toby's Trail", "Toby's Path", etc. Toby's Way was then suggested and it was an instant winner. Toby was particular about things. He chose his own funny T-shirts with designs and phrases. He graciously offered me his book on how to draw dinosaurs after my attempt to draw one on his markerboard at Sick Kids. He was also unwavering about receiving his cancer care at home. "Toby's Way" is a perfect name to reflect who Toby was.

It hurts so deeply to miss Toby this much. Having a section of pathway named after Toby to help remember him is such a thoughtful and kind gesture. Thank you so much to Councillor Santos and Mayor Brown for suggesting this. Thank you to Councillors Medeiros and Bowman, my local Councillors, for supporting it, and thank you all Council members again for your kindness and support in general.

Regards,

The Montgomery family.

