

Date: 2021-12-08

Subject: **Sport Field Naming Requests – In Honour of Olympic Gold Medal Soccer Winners Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence (C283-2021)**

Contact: Anand Patel, Acting Director, Recreation,
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Report Number: Community Services-2021-1254

Recommendations:

1. That the report from Anand Patel, Acting Director, Recreation, dated December 8, 2021, to the Council meeting of December 8, 2021, re: **Sport Field Naming Request – In Honour of Olympic Gold Medal Soccer Winners Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence** be received; and
2. That the administratively-named Creditview Sandalwood artificial turf fields #5 and #6 be permanently named Kadeisha Buchanan Field and Ashley Lawrence Field respectively; and
3. That, upon Council approval, staff be directed to erect appropriate park signage and host a ceremonial naming event while the athletes are present.

Overview:

- At it's August 11th, 2021 meeting, City Council carried the motion that staff be requested to work with the Brams United Soccer Club to identify and name two (2) soccer fields in honour of Olympic gold medal soccer winners Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence, and report back to Council on the proposed locations and commemorative naming and plaques, in accordance with the City's Asset Naming Policy.
- The Creditview Sandalwood artificial turf fields #5 and #6 (located in Wards 2 and 6), currently assigned administrative names based on the park name they reside in, to be named Kadeisha Buchanan Field and Ashley Lawrence Field respectively.

- **Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence are both in town and available from their professional soccer club obligations during the holiday season in December 2021. If approved, staff recommend erecting appropriate park signage and hosting a ceremonial naming event while the athletes are in town later this year.**

Background:

In August 2021, Canada won its first Olympic gold medal in women's soccer, beating Sweden 3-2 on penalty kicks after a 1-1 draw, with significant contributions from Brams United Girls Soccer Club alumni Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence.

At the August 11th, 2021 meeting, City Council carried the motion that staff be requested to work with the Brams United Soccer Club to identify and name two (2) soccer fields in honour of Olympic gold medal soccer winners Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence, and report back to Council on the proposed locations and commemorative naming and plaques, in accordance with the City's Asset Naming Policy.

Current Situation:

City Staff have consulted with Brams United Soccer Club's General Manager on the matter of renaming fields in honour of gold medal winning alumni Kadeisha Buchanan and Ashley Lawrence, as directed by the motion carried at City Council on August 11th 2021. The Soccer Club's General Manager, on behalf of their Board of Directors, has indicated that the artificial turf fields located at Creditview Sandalwood Park would be appropriate to be renamed based on quality of fields, similarity of the two fields, use of fields and prestige location.

These administratively-named fields are eligible for a Council-approved permanent name, in accordance with the Asset Naming Policy.

It is recommended that in consideration of the Council-approved motion, the administratively-named Creditview Sandalwood Park artificial turf fields #5 and #6 (Wards 2 and 6) be permanently named Kadeisha Buchanan Field and Ashley Lawrence Field respectively, and staff be directed to erect appropriate park signage and host a ceremonial naming event prior to the end of the year, while the athletes are in town from their professional soccer obligations, to celebrate the accomplishment.

Corporate Implications:Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications.

Term of Council Priorities:

This report achieves the Term of Council Priority of “Brampton is a Healthy and Safe City” by celebrating and recognizing achievements in athletics of the Brampton community.

Conclusion:

Naming Creditview Sandalwood Park artificial turf fields #5 and #6 as Kadeisha Buchanan Field and Ashley Lawrence Field respectively, fulfils Council’s direction and contributes to the City’s rich history of fostering, celebrating and promoting athletic achievement.

Authored by:

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Reviewed by:

Anand Patel,
Acting Director, Recreation

Ed Fagan,
Acting Director, Parks

Approved by:

Marion Nader,
Commissioner, Community Services

Submitted by:

David Barrick,
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Appendix A - Map of Proposed Field Location