

Request to Rename Garson Community Centre/Arena

Presented To:	Community and Emergency Services Committee
Meeting Date:	April 10, 2023
Type:	Managers' Reports
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Community Development

Report Summary

This report provides information on a request received to rename the Garson Community Centre/Arena to the George Armstrong Community Centre and Arena. The report outlines next steps, including community consultation, in the renaming process as per the City's Building, Property and Park Naming Policy (By-law 2012-256).

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report refers to operational matters and has no direct connection to the Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP).

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Should Council approve the renaming of the Garson Community Centre/Arena following the community consultation process, costs relating to the name change are to be funded by the applicant, as per the Building, Property and Park Naming Policy (By-law 2012-256).

Background

The City of Greater Sudbury has an established policy for the naming and renaming of interior spaces, portions or elements of municipal buildings, properties and parks (Building, Property and Park Naming Policy – By-law 2012-256). Honourific naming is made by community groups or organizations to recognize a group or individual's outstanding accomplishments, involvement, or work in the local community.

The following Naming Principles and Priorities are used as part of the City's assessment system to consider a honourific name:

- Names must not be duplicated or so similar that they create confusion in emergency response situations
- Names may place the element of the building, property, or park in geographical context to reflect significant ecological or natural resource features.
- Names may reflect the purpose or use of the element within the building, property, or park.
- Names convey a sense of place and community and celebrate the distinguishing characteristics of the neighbourhood or community.

- Names are understandable, recognizable and explainable to citizens and respect the values in regard to history, heritage and culture of the neighbourhood or community.
- Names reflect an individual or organization's significant contributions to public life in general.
- Names reflect an individual or organization with such extraordinary prominence and lasting distinction that no other individuals, families, or organizations can come forward and suggest alternatives.

The Nickel Centre Minor Hockey Association has made application to have the Garson Community Centre/Arena renamed in honour of George Armstrong, Hall of Fame forward and captain of the Toronto Maple Leafs teams which won four Stanley Cup championships in the 1960s, former resident of the communities of Skead and Falconbridge and one of the first players of Indigenous decent to score in the National Hockey League. Full application and supporting documentation attached as Appendix A.

Staff and Stakeholder Feedback and Initial Review

Following the process established by the Building, Property and Park Naming Policy, the application was circulated to Mayor and all members of Council, the City's Executive Leadership Team and appropriate applicable City departments for initial review and comments on the suitability of the application.

The lone question received was with respect to potential confusion of the proposed name (George Armstrong Community Centre and Arena) with the existing Howard Armstrong Recreation Centre. Community Safety staff have advised that there are protocols in place to confirm address/community which would mitigate any confusion regarding similar sounding names. Also, as they are two different types of recreation facilities (arena versus a pool/recreation centre) confusion from a resident perspective should be minimal. Other comments received were supportive of the renaming.

Initial Review by Committee of Council

All honourific naming and renaming applications are to be considered initially by the appropriate committee of Council, in this case the Community & Emergency Services Committee. This report is presented to provide Committee an opportunity to review the renaming application, supporting documentation and any comments received by City departments prior to the next steps of the renaming process. The requirements for renaming are satisfied upon the initial review process.

Next Steps

The City's Building, Property and Park Naming Policy requires that advertising for community consultation take place on any honourific naming requests which includes:

- Information about the naming will be sent to City Council, City of Greater Sudbury senior management, Community Action Networks (CANs), key stakeholders and the facility involved in the application.
- All requests for naming will be advertised in local media with information about the public meeting.
- A news release will be issued, and information will be posted on the City's website and other social media formats. All promotion will be done in both English and French.
- Public comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. 30 days from the notice being issued to residents.

A public meeting will be held 14 days after the notice has been advertised in the local media.

- The meeting will be scheduled to allow for the greatest number of the public to attend.
- The meeting will occur in the community and as close to the space or element of the building, property, or park as possible.
- The lead staff person will facilitate the meeting and gather written comments.
- The applicant will attend the meeting to review the request and respond to questions in more detail.

Following the consultation process, City staff will bring a report to Council which will include (but not be limited to) the following:

- Options for consideration;
- Application form;
- Comments from City Staff;
- Rationale for approval;
- Background and biographical information;
- Documentation supporting the request;
- Whether a naming ceremony is required
- All associated costs that the applicant will pay;
- Comments received from the public and
- Recommendation from the Committee of Council.

The final decision on renaming will be made by City Council.

Resources Cited

By-law 2012-256 A By-law of the City of Greater Sudbury to Adopt a Building, Property and Park Naming Policy

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/linkservid/8F25AAA3-0426-C0B9-FA5F45022272D23C/showMeta/0/>

Name a Building, Property or Park

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/play/parks-and-playgrounds1/name-a-building-property-or-park/>