### City of Mississauga

# **Corporate Report**



Date: March 9, 2020

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Paul Mitcham, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of Community Services

Meeting date: April 1, 2020

## **Subject**

Naming of the Arts Studio at River Grove Community Centre - Ward 6

#### Recommendation

- That the Arts Studio at River Grove Community Centre be named in honour of the late Susan R. Burt as outlined in the Corporate Report dated Monday, March 9, 2020 from the Commissioner of Community Services.
- 2. That Council waive the requirements to wait a minimum of one year posthumously before honouring individuals; and waive the 30 day waiting period as outlined in the City's "Facility Naming" Corporate Policy 05-02-02.

### **Background**

The City's 'Facility Naming' Corporate Policy, 05-02-02, establishes the process and criteria for facility and park naming's and memorial dedications. The policy addresses naming's and dedications related to public portions of facilities and parks (non-public spaces are not within the scope of this policy). In compliance with the policy, the Community Services Department is required to present facility and dedication names for General Committee and Council's consideration. In accordance with the Policy, General Committee is requested to consider the recommended name presented by the Community Services Department for a period of 30 days, to allow time for public comment after which the Committee is asked to make a final recommendation to Council.

The subject report outlines a request to dedicate the Arts Studio at River Grove Community Centre located at 5800 River Grove Avenue in honour of Susan R. Burt. The room is recommended due its function as an arts programming space and its proximity to Mrs. Burt's residence in the City of Mississauga.

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#### Comments

Susan R. Burt was an exceptional and highly respected employee with the City of Mississauga for more than 29 years. Through a variety of leadership positions with the City, Susan left a considerable legacy within Mississauga's arts, culture and heritage sector. Through the later part of her career, Susan also made considerable contributions to the Inspiration Lakeview and Inspiration Port Credit master plans as a senior leader within the Planning and Building Division.

Susan R. Burt joined the City of Mississauga, in 1987, as a member of the Community Services Department. Between 1997 and 2004, she held a variety of leadership roles, in Recreation, focussed on programming (primarily in the arts), community development and business services.

In 2005, Susan was seconded to the Mayor's Arts Review Task Force. The outcomes of this study would include a recommendation to form the City's Arts and Culture division. The Arts Task Force recommendations would also serve as a catalyst for the dramatic growth and transformation of Mississauga's arts and culture sector over the next decade.

After returning to the Community Services Department, as Director of Park Planning Development and Business Services in 2006, Susan led the teams that delivered several strategic and business plans aimed at improving and modernizing Recreation and Parks facilities in Mississauga.

In 2008, Susan became Mississauga's second Director of Arts and Culture, where she led the development of the City's first ever Culture Master Plan. The Culture Master Plan would help to shape the direction of Mississauga's significant cultural development over the next 5 years. In 2014, Susan assumed the role of Director of Strategic Community Initiatives within the Planning & Building Department, playing a key role in the development of the Inspiration Lakeview and Inspiration Port Credit Strategies before retiring in October 2016.

Over her exceptional 29 year career at the City, it is difficult to overstate her achievements in community development, arts and culture, and city building. Susan was a trusted and thoughtful resource to Council, the City's Leadership Team, her colleagues across the corporation and to the many organizations and leaders in Mississauga's arts, culture and heritage sector.

Sadly, Susan passed away on January 19, 2020. Her legacy and contributions to Mississauga, are worthy of distinction and recognition by the City. In accordance with the City's "Facility Naming" corporate policy, the proposed dedication of the Arts Room at River Grove Community Centre, in Susan's honour, is consistent with the policy's selection criteria.

The Ward 6 Councillor has been consulted and supports the recommended naming.

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## **Financial Impact**

There are no financial impacts resulting from the recommendations in this report. Using the Council approved Official Opening and Event categories, this event falls under category C: Opening and Events with no capital budget.

A ceremony for the plaque unveiling will be scheduled for a future date in 2020 (To Be Determined). A budget of up to \$5,000 for the dedication plaque will be absorbed within the existing Community Services Department operating budget.

#### Conclusion

The proposed naming of the Arts Studio at Rive Grove Community Centre, in honour of the late Susan R. Burt, is in accordance with the City's "Facility Naming" Corporate Policy.

#### **Attachments**

Appendix 1: Photo of the River Grove Arts Room and

Appendix 2: Location Map of the River Grove Community Centre.



Paul Mitcham, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of Community Services

Prepared by: Paul Damaso, Director, Arts and Culture