



City of Hamilton

FACILITY NAMING SUB-COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 23-001

Date: May 11, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Room 264, 2nd Floor, City Hall (hybrid) (RM)
71 Main Street West

Matt Gauthier, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 6437

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Naming Rights for the Mohawk 4 Ice Centre (HSC23035) (Ward 6)

*a. WITHDRAWN - Naming Rights for the Mohawk 4 Ice Centre (HSC23035)
(Ward 6)

*10.2 Renaming of Ryerson Recreation Centre (HSC23031) (Ward 1) (Outstanding
Business List Item)



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Recreation Division
and
Children’s and Community Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Facility Naming Sub-Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 11, 2023
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Renaming of Ryerson Recreation Centre to Kanétskare Recreation Centre (HSC23031) (Ward 1) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 1
PREPARED BY:	Dawn Walton (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4755 Jennifer DiDomenico (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5596 Shelly Hill (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4081
SUBMITTED BY:	Chris Herstek Director, Recreation Division Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	
SUBMITTED BY:	Jessica Chase Director, Children’s and Community Services Division Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Ryerson Recreation Centre at 251 Duke Street be renamed “Kanétskare” (pronounced Ga-nét-sga-re, a Mohawk term meaning Bay or Inlet) Recreation Centre as it meets the guidelines as set out in Section 4(b)(i) of the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy;
- (b) That a budget of \$20 K funded from the City’s Tax Stabilization Reserve, (110046) be established for costs associated with the removal, repair, preparation and installation of new facility signage at the 251 Duke Street site;

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

- (c) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
- (d) That the renaming of Ryerson Recreation Centre to Kanétskare Recreation Centre be considered complete and removed from the Facility Naming Sub Committee Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There is growing national and local concern about monuments and landmarks and representation of historic and cultural spaces that are not inclusive of Indigenous past and present, including the history of colonialism and residential schools.

At the July 9, 2021 meeting of City Council, staff were directed to “work in tandem with the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) in the renaming of the Ryerson elementary school/municipal recreation centre” and report back to the Facilities Naming Sub-Committee.

HWDSB staff, through consultation, developed and followed an Indigenous-led process to rename the school as detailed in their Executive Report to Standing Committee of June 6, 2022 (attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC23031). As part of this process, Healthy and Safe Communities staff were actively engaged in January 2022 to participate in an Indigenous-led Naming Circle to review and rename Ryerson Elementary School.

The consensus submission by the Naming Circle for Ryerson Elementary School of Kanétskare, was approved by HWDSB and implemented at the school site between June-September 2022.

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement from the Facility Naming Sub-Committee to extend the name Kanétskare to the co-located municipal recreation centre.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 4

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The requested budget of \$20 K to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve (110046) is required for the development and installation of facility signage including the removal of the existing exterior signage and any required fascia repair associated with the removal.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: Legal Services will assist with the preparation of any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents impacted by the facility name change in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Hamilton City Council committed to having “a trusting relationship with Indigenous communities where we communicate and work together appropriately to address the unique needs and issues of Indigenous people” through the adoption of the Urban Indigenous Strategy in July 2019 and the endorsement of the Urban Indigenous Strategy Implementation Plan on February 4, 2021.

At the June 6, 2021 meeting of the HWDSB the following motion was unanimously passed: “That in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, that an Indigenous process that is both locally relevant and responsive be struck to rename Ryerson Elementary school, through ethical engagement and in consultation with local Indigenous communities and key beneficiaries and stakeholders.” Subsequently, at the July 9, 2021 meeting of City Council, staff were directed to “work in tandem with the HWDSB in the renaming of the elementary school/municipal recreation centre.”

The Honouring our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices report by First Peoples Group co-developed through a listening process with Indigenous peoples was approved as supplementary to the Urban Indigenous Strategy as part of the Landmarks and Monuments Review (HSC21025(a)/PED21149(a)/PW21038(a)). The Honouring our Roots report was prepared as a guide to identify and address priority sites, not inclusive of Indigenous past and present including the history of colonialism, and residential schools. Through the work of the Circle of Experts, First Peoples Group, and staff, the Ryerson Recreation Centre was identified as a priority site requiring additional context to provide Indigenous history and identified that a process for the renaming of the community centre was already underway.

At the June 13, 2022 HWDSB meeting, the name Kanétskare, was unanimously approved as the new name for the Elementary School located at 222 Robinson Street.

There were some delays experienced in bringing the report forward to Facility Naming Sub-Committee which were compounded in part by the municipal election blackout period, the inauguration of Council and assignment to associated committees as well as staff resource capacity concerns in early 2023.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015), Council endorsed the Urban Indigenous Strategy through Report HSC19030 in June 2019 which identified actions to strengthen the City's relationship with the Indigenous community. The recommendations in Report HSC23031 directly relate to the implementation of the actions identified in the Urban Indigenous Strategy.

This naming request meets the required guidelines as set out in Section 4(b)(i) of the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy and as detailed in the Analysis and Rationale for Recommendation section of this report.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board staff responsible for the process undertaken for the renaming of the Kanétskare Elementary School were consulted during the preparation of the report and supportive of the recommendation of a shared name for the co-located facility.

Public Works, Facilities Operation and Maintenance staff were engaged to provide anticipated cost estimates for the proposed work to replace the facility signage at the site.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Honouring our Roots: Creating Space for Indigenous Voices was prepared as a guide to identify and address priority sites, not inclusive of Indigenous past and present including the history of colonialism, and residential schools. In keeping with the Core Themes of the report, the approach to adopt the consensus submission by the Naming Circle for Kanétskare Elementary School aligns with the following themes:

Connection to the Land

- The name Kanétskare a Mohawk term meaning "Bay or Inlet" emphasizes the interconnectedness of the land and elements to the community rather than reinforcing a political or individual narrative.

Relationships and Reciprocity

- Consideration, respect and reciprocity for the engagement conducted by the Naming Circle for the Elementary School by honouring and adopting the consensus submission for the co-located site.

The City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy has the following property listing categories from which proposed names for municipal properties and buildings may be selected: geographic, historic, and prominent individuals/ organizations (listed in priority order). In general, names of municipal property and buildings should give a sense of place, continuity, and belonging. Furthermore, adopting the name Kanétskare for the Centre would support the past practice of adopting shared names for co-located sites.

Section 4(b)(i) of the policy details the 'Geographic' category. It includes, in part, eligibility for names having a geographic affiliation which may include, but is not limited to:

- Proximity to a recognizable facility or area

The recreation centre is located not far from the Bayfront area. Therefore, the proposed naming meets the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

The alternative to conduct a separate City of Hamilton initiated renaming process for the Recreation Centre may be considered. Staff do not recommend this alternative as consultation with local indigenous communities, key beneficiaries and stakeholders has been completed with respect to the site. Consistent with the majority of attached or joint City of Hamilton/HWDSB facilities, a single name has traditionally been used to identify both the school and municipal recreation centre.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement and Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Built Environment and Infrastructure

Hamilton is supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

Culture and Diversity

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrated.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report HSC23031	HWDSB Standing Committee Agenda, June 6, 2022 – Item 5. Renaming of Ryerson Elementary
Appendix "B" to Report HSC23031:	Location Map of Proposed Kanétskare Recreation Centre



**EXECUTIVE REPORT
TO STANDING COMMITTEE**

TO: STANDING COMMITTEE
FROM: Sue Dunlop, Interim Director of Education
DATE: June 6, 2022
PREPARED BY: Gerry Smith, Superintendent of Student Achievement
RE: Renaming of Ryerson Elementary School

Action **Monitoring**

Recommended Action:

That the following consensus submission by the Naming Circle be considered as the new name for Ryerson Public School.

Recommended Name	Meaning
Kanétskare Elementary (Pronounced Ga-nét-sga-re)	By the Bay

Rationale/Benefits:

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, the Naming Circle is putting forth the recommended name. All submissions and suggestions were reviewed according to the guiding principles outlined in this Indigenous-informed school naming process (see below).

The Naming Circle met on Wednesday, May 18th and Monday, May 30th to discuss and consider the public consultation report that included all suggested names that met the guiding principles. The Naming Circle engaged in deep discussion to build to a consensus decision. One name is submitted for consideration by Trustees.

Background:

Trustee Motion: June 7, 2021

RESOLUTION #21-115: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: *That In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, that an Indigenous process that is both locally relevant and responsive be struck to rename Ryerson Elementary school, through ethical engagement and in consultation with local Indigenous communities and key beneficiaries and stakeholders.*

That staff initiate a review of all HWDSB schools named after individuals, in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, to ensure they reflect our board’s mission, vision, values and the application of human rights, decolonization, anti-racism and anti-oppression principles.

Staff followed a two-step process to rename Ryerson Elementary School:

- 1) Develop process to rename the school through consultation (September to December 2021)
- 2) Follow the process to rename the school (January to June 2022)

The second half of the board motion will be completed in 2022-23. This will allow us to learn from the Ryerson renaming process and incorporate that learning into revisions of the HWDSB School Naming Policy. Once the policy review is completed, we will begin the review of all HWDSB school names.

Guiding Principles:

- *Commitment:* We commit to the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- *Collaboration:* We work with Indigenous communities through active listening, transparency, respect, and humility. We must always work towards sustainable relationships.
- *Consultation:* We have an ethical duty to consult with Indigenous communities. Consultation happens continually: before, during and after processes and projects. Consultation requires relationships and trust.
- *Consensus:* We arrive at consensus by listening to the opinions and concerns of others - everyone works towards a suitable decision. Not everyone may be pleased with the outcome, but they accept it is the best decision for the community.
- *Names:* The Land Acknowledgement that HWDSB uses emphasizes the importance of the land we are on, its history, and the responsibility we share to care for it in perpetuity through the Dish with One Spoon wampum. We focus on the activity, significance and energy of a place (historical and current) through Indigenous worldviews to uncover potential names which might be in Indigenous languages.

Process:

1. Gather understanding of how the land has shaped human and natural activity where the school is located. Engage knowledge keepers to share potential names.
2. Share place knowledge and potential names with school communities (students, staff, school council), broader HWDSB communities (IEC, CC:ROSE, PIC) and external communities (Mississaugas of the Credit, Six Nations of the Grand). Gather feedback and additional names through a combination of written submissions and group consultations.
3. Bring together a Naming Circle with the following representation:
 - Ryerson student(s)
 - Ryerson staff Ryerson parent(s) (*parent means parent, guardian, caregiver)
 - Ryerson community member(s)
 - Indigenous Education Circle member(s)
 - Indigenous Elder consultation
 - School principal/vice-principal
 - Ward trustee
 - School superintendent
 - Others as needed
4. The Naming Circle reviews and vets the gathered names using the following questions:
 - a) Does the name reflect and honour the land?
 - b) Is the name free of colonialism, racism, oppression?
 - c) Is there broadly based support for the potential name? Add any other names that emerge through discussion.
5. The Naming Circle chooses one name for the school through a consensus model.
6. The Naming Circle recommends the chosen name to Board of Trustees.
7. Board of Trustees confirms the chosen school name through Board motion.
8. Celebration of the new name to involve all groups planned by principal/student/staff/communities.

The school Naming Circle consisted of the following individuals:

Gerry Smith, Superintendent of Student Achievement, Family of Schools 4
Mark Hopkins, Principal, Ryerson Public School
Lisa King, HWDSB Indigenous Education Consultant
Megan Evans, Ryerson School Council, Member
Adele Stanfield, Ryerson School, Teacher
Fallon Noakes, Ryerson School, Student
Kris Noakes, Ryerson School, Parent
Deborah Keddy, Recreation Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton

The following people were invited but were unable to attend:

Caroline King, former Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit
Rick Monture, Director of Indigenous Studies, McMaster University
Elizabeth Wong, Ward Trustee
Kristina Zito, HWDSB Social Worker

Tehahenteh, Knowledge Keeper, reviewed names that had been suggested to provide any corrections in Mohawk (Kanien'kéha), the meaning of the name and pronunciation. We thank him for sharing his precious knowledge and for working with HWDSB.

The summary of consultation findings that met criteria (Appendix A) is included with this report. The Ryerson student naming process (Appendix B) is included in this report.

The following name is presented for consideration:

- **Kanétskare Elementary** (Pronounced Ga-nét-sga-re)

The Naming Circle believes the name upholds the guiding principles and is a consensus selection.

Appendix A

Ryerson Renaming Public Consultation, 2022

Below are the suggested school names that are names that honour Indigenous culture or the geographic characteristics of the area (not names of a person).

Miigwech Elementary	Ojibwe: "thank you"
Attawandaron Elementary	Original Indigenous peoples inhabiting the north shore of Lake Erie from the Niagara Peninsula to the Detroit River, perhaps as far north as Toronto in the east and Goderich in the west
Macassa Elementary	First Indigenous people in this area? Or "beautiful waters", the Indigenous name for Hamilton according to <i>Manson, Bill (2003). Footsteps in Time: Exploring Hamilton's heritage neighbourhoods. North Shore Publishing Inc. (cannot verify this reference)</i>
Brookside Elementary	Not a person
Canadian First Nations Memorial School	
Cherry Birch	Tree native to Hamilton area. Not a person.
Crescent Elementary	Crescent moon represents start of new month or growth
DOS Wampum Elementary	Dish with One Spoon Wampum
Dove(s) Elementary	Symbolize peace, divine truth, holy spirit, love, courtship
Escarpment Elementary	The school is located at the base of a significant geological site
Four Directions Education Complex	Represents all of the people on Mother Earth
Foxfield *	Terry Fox and his contributions to cancer research; the animal fox is a native animal to the land. Field- the focus on nature, open environment, fields are able to grow things which symbolizes growth in education.
Gentle Meadow Elementary	Non-violent imagery and description of what was there pre-colonization (not verified that it was a meadow)
Glacial Lake(s) Elementary	Connection to the land. Prominent geographical site
Harmony Elementary	A symbol of peace in contrast to the colonialist past
Head of the Lake Elementary	Historic name for some part of Hamilton area
Healing Circle Elementary	Values and sense of community of healing circle would benefit the community
Horizon Elementary	
Iroquois Heights Elementary	Pay homage to Iroquois Confederacy
Iroquois Trail Elementary	Current Bruce Trail used to be an Iroquois trail and it cuts through the school's community
Kanata Elementary School	In reference to the people who were here before settlers
Kastehraktátye Elementary	"along the cliffs" in Mohawk. In reference to the Niagara Escarpment which is near the school site. Honours the land.
Land Back Elementary	To make the history obvious and impossible to ignore
Lost Souls Elementary	As a reminder of those who were murdered
Macassa **	Means beautiful waters and the first indigenous people referred to

	Hamilton as Beautiful Waters. Hamilton is surrounded by both lakes and waterfalls.
Makwendam	Same approach as Burlington's Ryerson school renaming
Maple Heights	
Mohawk Trail Elementary	Trail used by Indigenous peoples to get from the Grand River to the harbour and passed through this area
Naawi Gichigawi Gamig	Anishnaabemowin phrase for "Between the Great Lakes School." Treaty 3, (In which Hamilton sits) is called the Between the Lakes Purchase of 1792 from the Mississaugas (Anishnaabek). It's a place-based name which would be the first of its kind at HWDSB, honouring the Treaty land on which it resides.
Namwayut Elementary	Kwak'wala language (BC) "we are one"
Nanda-gikendan	Anishinaabe meaning "seeking knowledge"
New Hope Elementary	New hope, new direction
Peace Elementary	We should strive for peace
Reconciliation Elementary	Acknowledges and rights historical wrongs
Great White Pine Elementary	The late Chief Shingwauk's vision as interpreted by artist. See image on wall of Algoma University. The site of former residential school; now a national archive on history of residential schools documenting experiences of survivors.
[Lake of] Shining Waters Elementary	In Huron language, Ontari'io means lake of shining waters.
Sweetgrass Elementary	Or some other native plant
Truth and Reconciliation Elementary	Signifies ongoing obligation to make things right
Turtle Island Elementary	Shift from European settler to space inclusive for all
Tyendaga Elementary	It sounds good
Wampum Elementary	Historically significant; easy to spell and pronounce
White Pine Elementary *	"tree of peace" used historically to represent peace between nations/tribes. It's part of the natural world. The Indigenous buried their weapons as a sign of peace near the White Pine.

*Submission – Ryerson students

** Macassa (not an Indigenous name) explored in as an option in a verified Mohawk language formal

Appendix B

Student Renaming Process – Ryerson Public School

This process was facilitated by Lisa King, HWDSB Indigenous Education Consultant.

Ryerson Public School students followed a process of **Raising Up** ideas to build consensus in each class to submit one name for consideration. Process:

- Students were divided into 3 groups (Grade 6, 7 & 8). A virtual assembly was held for each group to put forward names along with the rationale for their choices.
- Outside on the playground, students physically moved to the name they supported. This process was repeated until consensus was reached to support one name. This *consensus-building/Raising Up* process produced the following 3 names to be considered for the new name for Ryerson School:
 - Foxfield - Terry Fox and all his contributions to cancer research, the animal fox is a native animal to the land, field- the focus on nature, open environment, the field can grow things which symbolizes growth in education.
 - White Pine - Symbolizes the tree of peace, represents unity and we want unity and inclusion in our school. It's part of the natural world. The indigenous buried their weapons as a sign of peace near the White Pine.
 - Macassa - Means beautiful waters and the first indigenous people referred to Hamilton as Beautiful Waters. Hamilton is surrounded by both lakes and waterfalls.

**Map of Ryerson Recreation Centre
Proposed Naming Kanétskare Recreation Centre
251 Duke Street, Hamilton (Ward 1)**

