Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – April 20, 2022

REPORTS

Item No. 9 Welcoming Winnipeg – Renaming Pan Am Pool Park (River Heights-Fort Garry Ward)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and recommended to Council:

1. That the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park (located at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Cambridge Street) be renamed to Rooster Town Park and that a territorial acknowledgment accompanies the park signage.

2. That supplementary signage, or a new permanent marker, be added to acknowledge the name "Pakan Town" (Michif/Anishinaabe), which was the name the residents used to call the area, subject to:

    A. The new marker being drafted in consultation with Rooster Town families and the Welcoming Winnipeg Committee of Community Members.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Welcoming Winnipeg – Renaming Pan Am Pool Park

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
C. Sveinson	M. Jack	C. Kloepfer	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 30, 2020, Council passed a motion to adopt the Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History Policy. This policy was developed to guide the City in making decisions regarding requests to create new, add to, or remove/rename historical markers and place names and resolve the absence of Indigenous histories and contributions in the stories remembered and commemorated. Welcoming Winnipeg will proactively utilize a lens of balance, inclusion, and Indigenous perspectives.

On February 12, 2021, a formal Welcoming Winnipeg request form was unveiled to the public; a request to rename the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park (located at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Cambridge Street) to Rooster Town Park was submitted through this process. The exact boundaries of the proposed park renaming can be found in Appendix D.

The Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History policy aligns at a municipal level with Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action #43 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), particularly Article 15:

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

After careful consideration, the Committee of Community Members (CCM) is recommending that Council support this request with the addition that a territorial acknowledgment accompanies the park signage. Further, the CCM is recommending supplementary signage or a new marker be added to acknowledge the name “Pakan Town” (Michif/Anishinaabe), which was the name the residents used to call the area; this will add additional historical context and help to promote Indigenous language revitalization and reclamation in public spaces.

Funding in the amount of $2,500 has been secured through the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve (River Heights-Fort Garry ward allocation) to update and replace the existing park

signage. Indigenous Relations has allocated up to $3,000 from the Journey of Reconciliation budget to the creation of the new signage or permanent marker.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park (located at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Cambridge Street) be renamed to Rooster Town Park and that a territorial acknowledgment accompanies the park signage.

2. That supplementary signage, or a new permanent marker, be added to acknowledge the name “Pakan Town” (Michif/Anishinaabe), which was the name the residents used to call the area, subject to:

    A. The new marker being drafted in consultation with Rooster Town families and the Welcoming Winnipeg Committee of Community Members.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On January 30, 2020, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee that the recommendations of the community member-based committee be forwarded to the Executive Policy Committee and then to Council for final decision.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

If the recommendations of this report are concurred in, the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park (located at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Cambridge Street) will be renamed Rooster Town Park and a territorial acknowledgment with additional signage or permanent marker will accompany the park signage.

Funding in the amount of $2,500 has been secured through the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve (River Heights-Fort Garry ward allocation) to update and replace the existing park signage. Indigenous Relations has allocated up to $3,000 from the Journey of Reconciliation budget to the creation of the new signage or permanent marker. No new funding is required.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

Decision-making history

On November 3, 1958, Council passed a motion to approve the sale of property located on Grant Avenue and Nathanial Street to the Winnipeg School Division, forcing the displacement of the Métis community known as Rooster Town.

On January 30, 2020, Council passed a motion to adopt the Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History Policy. This policy was developed to guide the City in making decisions regarding requests to create new, add to, or remove/rename historical markers and place names and

resolve the absence of Indigenous histories and contributions in the stories remembered and commemorated. Welcoming Winnipeg will proactively utilize a lens of balance, inclusion, and Indigenous perspectives.

As recommended in this policy, the inaugural Committee of Community Members (CCM) was established in August 2020; a key function of this committee is review requests to change historical or place names and provide a recommendation to the Executive Policy Committee (EPC) and Council for final decision.

On February 12, 2021, a formal Welcoming Winnipeg request form was unveiled to the public; a request to rename the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park (located at the intersection of Grant Avenue and Cambridge Street) to Rooster Town Park was submitted through this process. The exact boundaries of the proposed park renaming can be found in Appendix D.

Considerations for this naming request

The CCM reviewed the decision-making history and the information provided by the applicant (summarized in Appendix A) and then as a delegate at the committee's June 4, 2021, meeting. Additionally, the public input that was collected over a two-week period was provided to the CCM to consider as part of their recommendation-making process. An overview of the feedback collected has been included in a Public Engagement Summary Report (Appendix B).

The CCM considered how this request meets the following definition of a "Welcoming Winnipeg" request, which was created through two phases of public engagement in 2019 and was refined by the CCM. A Welcoming Winnipeg request is one that:

- Ultimately achieves a balanced perspective/story;
- Honours Indigenous peoples as the original peoples of this land and the contemporary context in which Indigenous peoples continue to have relationship with this land;
- Promotes Indigenous reclamation of land, space and/or language;
- Offers an educational opportunity; or,
- Supports telling the complete history of Winnipeg.

Utilizing the Welcoming Winnipeg Request Assessment Tool (Appendix C), the CCM identified the following as key considerations:

1. Welcoming Winnipeg
    - It was determined that this request meets all aspects of the Welcoming Winnipeg definition; the story of Rooster Town is one that has been missing from the City's historical narrative until very recently.
2. Research and Rationale
    - A number of resources and information are available about the history of Rooster Town and the forced displacement of this Métis community by the City of Winnipeg, including:
        - The Canadian Encyclopedia: Rooster Town
        - Podcast: CBC's Muddied Water – Rooster Town Episode
        - City of Winnipeg – History of Rooster Town Information
3. Community Support
    - Support for this renaming has been shared through a variety of meetings between the City and Rooster Town families.

- In response to the question: Do you think the Committee of Community Members should support this request, 68% of respondents said ‘yes’. There were 175 respondents to the online survey.

4. Additional considerations
    - The overall public response to this request was 530% times larger than any previous request that had gone through the Welcoming Winnipeg process.

The Welcoming Winnipeg: Reconciling our History policy was adopted because of a demonstrated need for changes to how the City approaches commemoration. This policy aligns at a municipal level with Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action #43 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), particularly Article 15:

3. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
4. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

After careful consideration, the CCM is recommending that Council support this request with the addition that a territorial acknowledgment accompanies the park signage. Further, the CCM is recommending supplementary signage or a new marker be added to acknowledge the name “Pakan Town” (Michif/Anishinaabe), which was the name the residents used to call the area; this will add additional historical context and help to promote Indigenous language revitalization and reclamation in public spaces.

Funding in the amount of $2,500 has been secured through the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve (River Heights-Fort Garry ward allocation) to update and replace the existing park signage. Indigenous Relations has allocated up to $3,000 from the Journey of Reconciliation budget to the creation of the new signage or permanent marker.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: March 3, 2022

Project Name:

Welcoming Winnipeg – Renaming Pan Am Pool Park

First Year of Program **2022**

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 5,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 5,500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	5,500	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

Direct costs of $5,500 represent the estimated costs to rename the park currently known as Pan Am Pool Park to Rooster Town Park as outlined in the report. Funding of $2,500 will come from the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve (River Heights-Fort Garry ward allocation) and $3,000 from the Indigenous Relations Division Journey of Reconciliation budget.

"electronically approved by J. Peters"

Jocelyn Peters, CPA, CGA
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Parks and Open Spaces (Public Works)

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

Complete Communities Direction Strategy

Supporting Direction 1 - Conserve, protect, and celebrate the significant heritage resources that illustrate the broad range of Winnipeg's heritage values.

Supporting Direction 2 - Provide leadership in heritage conservation that links to broader civic goals of economic development, sustainability, and neighbourhood planning.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

The information and recommendations presented in this report align with and advance the Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy (2021 – 2031) as follows:

They embody the following Guiding Principles:

- We will Uphold Human Rights
- We will Honour Relationships and Reconciliation with Indigenous People

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Chief Administrative Office
Division: Indigenous Relations
Prepared by: D. Carriere
Date: March 15, 2022
File No: N/A

Attachments:

Appendix A: 2021-005 Request Summary

Appendix B: 2021-005 Public Engagement Summary Report

Appendix C: Welcoming Winnipeg – Request Assessment Tool

Appendix D: Figure 1 – Rooster Town Park Boundaries