Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 12, 2024

REPORTS

Item No. 11 Park Renaming – Bonaventure Park to Tunngasugit Park (St. Vital Ward)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DECISION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Riel Community Committee and referred the following to the Welcoming Winnipeg process:

1. The renaming of "Bonaventure Park", located at 70 Evelyne Reese Boulevard in the Bonavista Community, to "Tunngasugit Park".

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Mayes,

That the recommendation of the Riel Community Committee be concurred in.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 13, 2024, the Executive Policy Committee laid the matter over to its meeting on March 12, 2024.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 26, 2024, the Riel Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS Tunngasugit Inc., a non-profit organization, has been consulted in regards to suggestions for the naming/renaming of a park to Inuktitut, a body of language used by the Inuit;

AND WHEREAS Tunngasugit Inc. helps Inuit with any situation they are facing to promote and enhance the quality of life for Inuit within Winnipeg through the provision of culturally sensitive programs and services in English and Inuktitut;

AND WHEREAS Tunngasugit means “Welcome”, and is a word which gives people the feeling of being welcomed in to a park using an Indigenous language from a culture that is often forgotten about;

AND WHEREAS Genstar, the Developer of the Bonavista community are supportive of renaming the existing Bonaventure Park.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be requested to refer the following to the Welcoming Winnipeg process:

1. The renaming of “Bonaventure Park”, located at 70 Evelyne Reese Boulevard in the Bonavista Community, to “Tunngasugit Park”.

January 3, 2024

To whom this may concern:

Tunngasugit Inc. is a non-profit organization that helps Inuit with any situation they are facing. Tunngasugit is committed to promoting and enhancing the quality of life for Inuit within Winnipeg through the provision of culturally sensitive programs and services, in English and Inuktitut, and to orient Inuit to southern culture and environment.

Tunngasugit inc. has been approached by city councillor Brian Mayes with the introduction of naming of a park in the city of Winnipeg in Inuktitut which is a body of language used by Inuit.

Tunngasugit is in support of this initiative which is designed to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion, with respect to Indigenous relations within the City of Winnipeg.

The recommendations put forth are with the intent that Inuit consultation is at the forefront with this initiative and that Tunngasugit is a part of the process with how and what is being recommended to be named in the City of Winnipeg's Park. It is vitally important to Tunngasugit that relationships are formed and that there is transparency throughout this process.

With consultation from the Board of Directors of Tunngasugit these are the recommendations that have been put forth for naming a park in Inuktitut.

1. ***Tunngasugit:*** *In Inuktitut language this word means "Welcome" this word used gives people the feeling of being welcomed into a park using an indigenous language and from a culture that is often*

818 SARGENT AVENUE, WINNIPEG, MB R3E 0B8

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forgotten about or not consulted with when having conversations such as this theme of naming a park in Inuktitut.

It would be in our best judgement as an Inuit organization comprised of Inuit on the Board of Directors to use this word Tunngasugit to represent Inuit in a significant way. It is important to Inuit that we are represented appropriately and properly given the decades of misinformation, misunderstanding and colonization brought upon our culture.

Using a word in Inuktitut gives society a chance to learn how to pronounce this word and other words in the future but also strays away from naming a park after a human person as this can become contentious with others in the community.

If you require further information please feel free to contact our executive director Nikki Komaksiutiksak at

Qujanaamiit,

Nikki Komaksiutiksak

Executive Director

Tunngasugit Inc.

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