

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
Friday, March 25, 2022 Meeting

FROM: Richard Ubbens, Director, Conservation Parks and Lands

RE: **COMMEMORATION OF TRAIL IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID BARROW**

KEY ISSUE

Honouring former Richmond Hill Mayor David Barrow through naming of a trail in the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve in the City of Richmond Hill, Regional Municipality of York, as the David Barrow Trail.

RECOMMENDATION

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT WHEREAS David Barrow has made significant contributions to the environmental and conservation community through his tenure as Mayor of Richmond Hill and as a member of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS staff were directed to proceed with naming a TRCA asset in Richmond Hill after David Barrow;

AND WHEREAS the Barrow family has provided their support for the naming of a trail in the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve after David Barrow;

AND WHEREAS the proposed name meets the Naming of TRCA Assets Policy in terms of the name of an individual prominent in the environmental or conservation community;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT a looped section trail south of Bethesda Side Road and east of Bayview Avenue in the Jefferson Forest section of the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve in the City of Richmond Hill be named "David Barrow Trail";

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Richmond Hill and the Regional Municipality of York be so advised.

BACKGROUND

Former City of Richmond Hill Mayor David Barrow was a long-standing representative for both the City of Richmond Hill and the Region of York. Over his 33 years as a public representative, former Mayor Barrow has worked diligently to support conservation values and further the protection of and access to the Toronto region's greenspaces. Mr. Barrow has always valued Richmond Hill as a community in which to live, work and play.

His support of conservation values is exemplified through his over 18 years as a Board member of TRCA. During his long service as a Member of the Board of Directors, former Mayor Barrow served as a Member of TRCA's Executive Committee, and as a member of the Finance and Business Advisory Board, the Budget and Audit Advisory Board and the Business Excellence

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Advisory Board, including as Chair of the latter advisory board, in previous TRCA Advisory Board structures.

With TRCA, former Mayor Barrow consistently advocated for the conservation of the Oak Ridges Moraine through TRCA land acquisitions in the Oak Ridges area, including TRCA's Swan Lake property. He championed projects that supported responsible public access to the larger Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve complex, including the provincially owned Oak Ridges Corridor Park, and initiatives that improved environmental education at Lake St. George Field Centre. He encouraged the integration of Richmond Hill and TRCA greenspaces, parks and trails to provide a more connected and enjoyable experience in the Oak Ridges community.

Mr. Barrow also spearheaded significant greenspace acquisitions by the City of Richmond Hill, including Phyllis Rawlinson Park and David Dunlop Observatory Park. These greenspaces contribute to and further integrate the greenspace and ecosystem strategies of the City of Richmond Hill, York Region and TRCA.

At Executive Committee Meeting, held on January 14, 2022, Resolution #B135/21 was approved as follows:

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT whereas Mayor David Barrow has served as a valued member of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Board of Directors for over 18 years;

AND WHEREAS TRCA has a Naming of TRCA Assets Policy that established a protocol for the naming of TRCA assets;

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to proceed with naming a TRCA asset in Richmond Hill after Mayor David Barrow, in consultation with his family, and in accordance with policy.

At Authority Meeting #9/03, held on November 28, 2003, Resolution #A255/03 was approved, which set the protocol for the naming of TRCA assets. According to the protocol, a naming may contain any or all of the following:

- the name of a major individual or corporate/public sector organization, possibly a donor;
- the name of an individual prominent in the environmental or conservation community;
- a relevant historical name associated with the geographic area or community;
- the name of a strategic initiative, a citizen's group or other partnership of TRCA; and/or
- other names that may have significance for a specific site and area.

Further, the naming of TRCA assets requires the approval of the Authority.

RATIONALE

The naming of a trail after former Mayor Barrow satisfies TRCA's condition that the name is that of an individual prominent in the environmental or conservation community.

The David Barrow Trail at Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve (see attachment 1) reflects former Mayor Barrow's commitment to creating strong and vibrant communities in which to live, work and play. Former Mayor Barrow has been an advocate of conservation efforts by

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the City of Richmond Hill, the Region of York and the TRCA during his time in public service. In particular, he supported the integration of TRCA and Richmond Hill greenspaces, parks and trails in the Oak Ridges community.

In selecting this trail, TRCA consulted with the Barrow family, City of Richmond Hill Council and staff, and Region of York staff, all of whom expressed their support for the naming.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategy set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 6 – Tell the story of the Toronto region

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Costs for the production and installation of updated wayfinding signs at the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve is estimated to be \$7,500 and will be funded through York Trails Program (442-04).

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Staff will install updated wayfinding signs at the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve.

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Date: February 22, 2022

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: Map of Proposed David Barrow Trail