



CITY OF KINGSTON

**REPORT TO ARTS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY  
POLICIES COMMITTEE**

Report No.: ARCP-10-003

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**TO:** Chair, Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee  
**FROM:** Cynthia Beach, Commissioner, Sustainability and Growth  
**RESOURCE STAFF:** Lanie Hurdle, Director, Recreation and Leisure  
**DATE OF MEETING:** 2009-12-02  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Renaming of Breakwater Park

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In spring 2009, staff initiated a public consultation process to address a request from the Kingston Historical Society to change the name of Breakwater Park to Bradstreet Park, after Lieutenant-Colonel John Bradstreet. Through this process, staff consulted with internal departments and the general public, through an on line survey and public meeting.

Information and feedback gathered by staff generally do not support a name change for the Breakwater Park and therefore, staff is recommending that the existing name remain. Staff is also recommending that a plaque be installed at Breakwater Park to recognize the history of the site and more specifically Lieutenant-Colonel John Bradstreet's contributions.

This report is also being presented to the Kingston Municipal Heritage Committee in December as per Council approved process in 2008.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council maintain the name Breakwater Park; and

THAT Council direct staff to work with the Kingston Historical Society to develop and erect a plaque, in accordance with the requirements of the Kingston Remembers program, which will recognize Lieutenant-Colonel John Bradstreet in Breakwater Park.

**AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:**

<p><b>ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER</b>                  Cynthia Beach, Commissioner, Sustainability &amp; Growth Group</p>
<p><b>ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER</b>                  Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer</p>

**CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Beach, <i>Sustainability &amp; Growth</i>	✓
Commissioner Thurston, <i>Community Development Services</i>	N/R
Commissioner Leger, <i>Corporate Services</i>	N/R
Jim Keech, President, <i>Utilities Kingston</i>	N/R

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**OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:**

In September 2008, Council approved a process for staff to review a proposal to rename Breakwater Park to Bradstreet Park. The proposal was submitted by the Kingston Historical Society in May 2008. The process approved by council included a City internal consultation, a public survey and public consultation.

Over the past months, staff have circulated the Kingston Historical Society proposal to all City departments for comments. Staff posted a survey on City website during the summer for the general public to provide comments and staff held a public meeting in September 2009 to obtain additional feedback and comments.

Most internal comments were not in support of a change in name for operational reasons. Comments were made about creating confusion with this change as this park already has a name; similar to the confusion surrounding Ron Lavallée Park, which is also referred to as 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Results from online surveys indicated that the majority of respondents were not in favor of a change in name. Fifty one (51) out of ninety-two (92) respondents voted against a change in name for various reasons.

There were about eight (8) members of the public in attendance at the public session. Some of the attendees were representatives of the Kingston Historical Society. Comments made at the meeting varied. Most people agreed with the need to recognize John Bradstreet but felt that changing the name of Breakwater Park may not be the best approach. Some suggested that a plaque at Breakwater Park with information on John Bradstreet's achievements would be a better solution.

Through comments submitted by the public, it seems that the land area where Breakwater Park is located was not in existence at the time when John Bradstreet came to Kingston (1758). It appears that the break water was built in the 1800's.

Considering that Breakwater Park name is based on the break water built in the 1800's and that there is not general support from the public to change the name of this park, staff are recommending that the City not change the name of Breakwater Park and that the City erect a plaque in Breakwater park providing historical information as it relates to John Bradstreet.

**EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:**

City of Kingston Naming of Corporate Assets Policy

**NOTICE PROVISIONS:**

N/A

**ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:**

N/A

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Cost of the plaque will be incorporated in the Breakwater park design budget.

**CONTACTS:**

Lanie Hurdle, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services                      546-4291 ext. 1231

**OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:**

Alan McLeod, Senior Legal Counsel, Legal Services  
Marcus Létourneau, Heritage Planner

**EXHIBITS ATTACHED:**

N/A