



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Dufferin/St. Clair Branch – Naming of Program Room

Date:	September 17, 2007
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	City Librarian

SUMMARY

Approval is requested to name the Dufferin/St. Clair Branch program room, the Earlscourt Program Room, in recognition of the importance of this name to the community. The naming would coincide with the reopening of the newly renovated branch in the summer of 2008.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Toronto Public Library Board:

1. Approves the naming of the Dufferin/St.Clair Branch program room the Earlscourt Program Room.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with this report beyond what has been approved in the budget for the building project.

DECISION HISTORY

The Regal Heights Residents' Association has requested that the program room in the renovated Dufferin/St. Clair Branch be named the Earlscourt Room (Attachment 1). At the Regal Heights Residents' Association 2006 Fall General Meeting, it was unanimously agreed that this recommendation be made to the Toronto Public Library Board to recognize the importance of the Earlscourt name in the area.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Dufferin/St. Clair Branch, built in 1921, was named the Earlscourt Branch until 1972. The Earlscourt name has been used in several locations in the surrounding area, and was first used as the name of the 50-acre Earlscourt Estate on the west side of Dufferin Street between St. Clair Avenue and Davenport Road. The renovated branch will feature restored historic murals painted from 1926 through 1932. The renovated façade will more closely resemble the original. Dufferin/St. Clair Branch is included on the City Inventory of Heritage Properties.

COMMENTS

The Toronto Public Library Naming Policy gives priority to naming branches after their geographic location and rooms after the branch where the room is located together with the function of the room (Attachment 2). The name Earlscourt Program Room reflects the original name of the Branch, the community the branch is located in and indicates the room's function. This naming meets the policy guidelines if both the "Branches" and "Rooms" criteria are considered, which is appropriate given the history of the Branch. It provides a good vehicle for promoting the heritage aspects of the building program and supports the wishes of the local community.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Josephine Bryant
City Librarian

ATTACHMENTS

1. Excerpt from Letter dated January 24, 2007 from Richard Watts, Chairman, Regal Heights Residents' Association
2. Toronto Public Library Naming Policy