



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Branch Renaming: Perth/Dupont

Date: May 29, 2024
To: Naming Committee
From: City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the relocated and rebuilt Perth/Dupont neighbourhood branch, located at 299 Campbell Avenue, be named the Junction Triangle branch. The proposed name complies with the Toronto Public Library (TPL) Board's [Naming Policy](#), which prioritizes naming after the geographic location. Local engagement has confirmed community support for the new name.

Throughout the design phase of the new library facility, community stakeholders identified interest in renaming the branch to reflect the neighbourhood's longstanding name and its railway history, and proposed the name Junction Triangle. An online survey conducted in March and April 2024 received strong response from community members, with 86% indicating their support for the name Junction Triangle branch. A summary of this community feedback is included in this report.

Once it moves to the newly-built facility at 299 Campbell Avenue, the Perth/Dupont branch will no longer be located by Perth Avenue. Renaming the

branch is seen as an important step in further enhancing the sense of belonging and connection throughout the community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Librarian recommends that the Naming Committee:

1. approve the name Junction Triangle branch for the library located at 299 Campbell Avenue and recommend this name to the Toronto Public Library Board for approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the renaming is available from the approved Perth/Dupont – 299 Campbell Avenue Capital Project budget.

The Director, Finance & Treasurer has reviewed this financial impact statement and agrees with it.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

A focus on equity is embedded throughout [TPL's Strategic Plan](#) to ensure that library services and actions break down barriers to access and increase inclusion. This focus includes a commitment to ensure that everyone who wants to use the library feels welcome and represented in TPL spaces and is able to access the Library's services. This includes the process for naming branches.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

TPL's Equity Statement outlines the Library's commitment to creating and maintaining work and public service environments where everyone is welcomed, included and supported, and that are grounded in tolerance and mutual respect, so that Library customers, stakeholders, staff and the public can freely and equitably access or deliver Library services which meet the changing needs of Torontonians. TPL welcomes diversity and supports equity

and inclusion, and this extends to branch names and the way in which they are selected.

DECISION HISTORY

At its February 26, 2024 [meeting](#), the Naming Committee received a report for information on the approach to public consultation to assess community support and provide an opportunity for feedback on the proposed new name for the branch located at 299 Campbell. The report stated that TPL would present the Naming Committee a summary of community feedback, along with a recommendation for a name.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

TPL's [Naming Policy](#) requires that names for library branches, rooms, programs and collections be approved by the Library Board, including honorary naming or naming with a gift.

The policy outlines the naming of branches based on the following priorities:

- the Library will give priority to naming its buildings after their geographic location, either the community or the street location where they are situated;
- alternatively, consideration will be given to naming, where appropriate, after the type of service or function offered at that branch;
- in exceptional circumstances, consideration will be given to naming a branch after an individual whose contribution to the Library or the City of Toronto is well documented and is widely recognized and valued. At least two years shall have passed since the individual's death.

For the renaming of branches, the policy also outlines that new naming opportunities may arise when a facility is redeveloped or renovated.

TPL's Naming Policy, which was last updated in 2014, will be reviewed and proposed updates will be presented to the Naming Committee and Board for approval in 2024. Updates to the policy will reflect the City's Guiding Principles for Commemoration, relevant aspects of the City's Property Naming Policy, as well as the learning from the recent process for renaming of two branches, including Perth/Dupont.

COMMENTS

Perth/Dupont Background

The Perth/Dupont branch will be relocating to a new site at 299 Campbell Avenue. Opened in 1977, it is one of TPL's smallest branches. The branch will be replaced with a 10,000 square foot facility on a single level at the base of a residential rental building. The new branch will be a light-filled space offering modern library services that are responsive to the needs of the local community. The branch will remain open at the current location during the construction phase. TPL has taken possession of the space allocated for the branch, and construction of the branch interior is projected to start in mid-2024 with plans to open in 2025.

Proposed New Name for 299 Campbell Ave

Given the new location of the branch, staff are recommending selection of a new name. Through community consultation during the initial design phase, staff received feedback from the community that they would like to name the branch Junction Triangle to reflect the identity of the neighbourhood. This name aligns with the area's history and culture. The name reflects the intersection of railway lines that formed a triangle in the neighborhood and the sense of community that has been built around it. Community feedback also suggested the inclusion of a railway theme and the history of the Junction Triangle be incorporated in the design of the new branch. It was suggested that the building's exterior design and street presence incorporate elements such as iron, rivets, wood and trains.

At a virtual Open House held on February 28, 2024, with support from the local Councillor, TPL shared the next steps for renaming the branch, including the opportunity to participate in a survey to gauge support and feedback for the proposed name.

The Junction Triangle neighbourhood is named for the historical intersection of the Canadian National (CN) Railway and Canadian Pacific (CP) Railway corridors that form a triangle in the neighbourhood. The first CP station at the location was built in 1885. The area experienced a decline in economic activity as the railway industry declined. In the 1990s, community-led revitalization efforts

transformed the Junction Triangle into a vibrant, diverse neighbourhood with a thriving arts and cultural scene.

The area's identity was shaped by community activism, including successful campaigns to preserve historic buildings and landmarks. Its evolution reflects broader trends in urbanization, industrialization, and community engagement in Toronto's development. The Junction Triangle serves as a compelling example of the potential for community-led initiatives to drive positive change in urban areas¹. Renaming the branch is seen as an important step in further enhancing the sense of belonging and connection throughout the community.

Summary of Public Consultation Feedback Results

Staff launched the consultation process with an online survey that was open from March 25, 2024 until April 10, 2024. The goal of the survey was to gauge community support and feedback for the proposed name Junction Triangle branch.

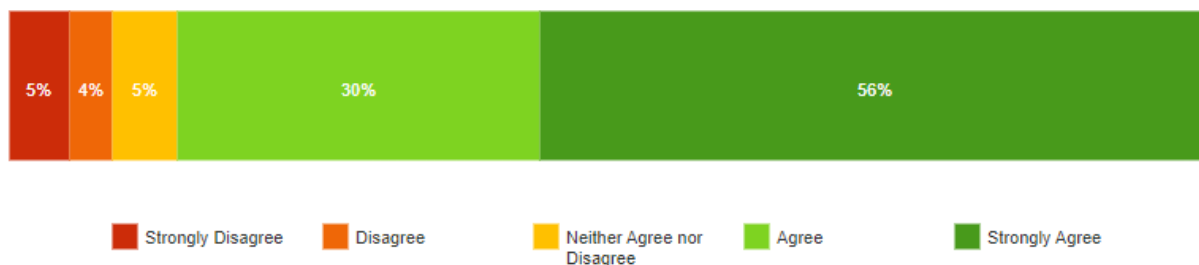
The survey had a strong response from the community, with 500 respondents completing the survey.

The survey was available to the public on the Library [website](#) and emailed to branch customers. It was also sent to [ward 9](#) Councillor Alejandra Bravo to share with ward constituents to further engage community stakeholders. Flyers promoting the survey were posted at the Perth/Dupont branch and three area branches.

The results show strong community support for the proposed name, with 86% of respondents indicating support for the name Junction Triangle branch. More than half of respondents (56%) strongly agree and 30% report that they agree with the name.

¹ Source consulted: <https://wtjhs.ca/junction-history/>

The suggested name for the new relocated branch is Junction Triangle. Do you support this proposed name?



A sample of comments indicating support for the name include:

- "This is the perfect name to reflect our community and community spirit and the significance of the library to that community."
- "Good name, and it's a neighbourhood name that was chosen by people from the neighbourhood."
- "It's a great name that strengthens the bonds that the library will have with the community."

In total, 9% or 43 respondents disagree or strongly disagree with the name and 5% or 27 respondents neither agreed nor disagreed. Of those who provided additional information about why they did not indicate support for the name:

- 12 respondents (17%) suggest the name reference one or both street names.
- 12 respondents (17%) prefer the new name acknowledge Indigenous history.
- 6 respondents (9%) would like to keep the current branch name.

A sample of comments that did not indicate support for the name include:

- "Why does the name need changing? Perth/Dupont is iconic."
- "I like the convention of using the name of the street for branches, and would prefer something like Campbell/Dupont."
- "There should be an Indigenous name that honours the land we live and work on."

CONCLUSION

Given the strong community support for the proposed name, this report recommends that the relocated and rebuilt Perth/Dupont neighbourhood branch located at 299 Campbell Avenue be named the Junction Triangle branch. The proposed name complies with the Library Board's [Naming Policy](#), and is an important step in further enhancing the sense of belonging and connection throughout the community.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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