

# HALIFAX

P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 15.1.5**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**February 25, 2020**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Original Signed by   
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** January 31, 2020

**SUBJECT:** AN107: HRM Asset Names, April 4, 2019 to October 28, 2019

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## **ORIGIN**

HRM has received asset naming requests from the period of April 4, 2019 to October 28, 2019.

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Administrative Order Number 46, Respecting HRM Asset Naming Policies

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve:

- (1) The addition of the name Frances Fish to the existing Commemorative Names List as shown on Attachment A;
- (2) The renaming of the Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park Ball Diamond #2 in the Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park, Cole Harbour to the Paul Mason Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment B;
- (3) The renaming of the Meadowbrook Park Ball Diamond #1 in the Meadowbrook Park, Bedford to the Bill Ross Memorial Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment C;
- (4) The housekeeping renaming of the Humber Park Elementary School Park Ball Diamond in the Humber Park Elementary School Park, Lake Loon to the Justin Coward Memorial Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment D;
- (5) The housekeeping renaming of the Old Dalhousie School Site, Halifax to Shiplside Lane Park, as shown on Attachment E;
- (6) The renaming of McIntosh Run District Park, Halifax to McIntosh Run Regional Park, as shown on Attachment F; and
- (7) The administrative park names as shown on Attachment G.

## **BACKGROUND**

HRM's Asset Naming Policy Administrative Order (A.O.46) allows any person or group to apply for a commemorative name for HRM assets, particularly streets, parks or buildings. The A.O. requires the Civic Addressing Coordinator to consult with at least one representative from each asset category, the municipal archivist, and a representative from HRM Cultural Affairs on each application. This group forms the HRM Asset Naming Committee (the Committee). The Committee also consults with the local Councillor(s) for each application.

### **Requests**

The Committee recommends Regional Council approve eight requests for the period of April 4, 2019 to October 28, 2019 as outlined below:

- a) 1 name to be added to the commemorative names list;
- b) 3 requests to rename park features;
- c) 2 requests to rename parks and
- d) 2 administrative park names.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Committee recommends that Regional Council approve all eight requests as outlined below:

### **Commemorative Names List:**

Commemorative names recognize individual persons, groups of people and geographic features. The Asset Naming criteria states that individuals who have demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia and/or Canada may be recognized. The criteria also allow names that recognize geographical or topographical features of the area. The Asset Naming Committee is recommending approval of one commemorative name application for Frances Fish.

This name meets the criteria of the HRM Asset Naming Policies. Therefore, the Asset Naming Committee recommends that this application, as outlined in Attachment A, be approved and added to the commemorative names list.

### **Park Feature Renaming:**

The Committee recommends:

- renaming of the Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park Ball Diamond #2 in the Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park, Cole Harbour to the Paul Mason Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment B;
- renaming of the Meadowbrook Park Ball Diamond #1 in the Meadowbrook Park, Bedford to the Bill Ross Memorial Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment C; and
- the house keeping renaming of the Humber Park Elementary School Park Ball Diamond in the Humber Park Elementary School Park, Lake Loon to the Justin Coward Memorial Ball Diamond, as shown on Attachment D.

### **Park Renaming:**

The Committee recommends:

- the house keeping renaming of the Old Dalhousie School Site, Halifax to Shiplane Lane Park, as shown on Attachment E, and
- renaming of McIntosh Run District Park, Halifax to McIntosh Run Regional Park, as shown on Attachment F.

**Administrative Park and Park Feature Names:**

Administrative names reflect either the neighborhood, subdivision, street or community name in which a park or park feature is located. Since the previous asset naming report, two administrative names have been submitted. Staff have reviewed the names and recommends that the administrative names, as outlined in Attachment G, be approved by Regional Council.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are minimal costs associated with the administration of the HRM's Asset Naming Policy. These costs can be accommodated within the existing 2019-2020 operating budget for C420-Planning & Development.

**RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The community engagement process is consistent with the intent of the HRM Community Engagement Strategy. The level of community engagement is ongoing and is achieved through promotion online and the creation of printed marketing material and engaging local interest groups. Any member of the community is welcome to submit applications for commemorative names within HRM.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Regional Council could choose to not approve some, or all, of the requested names. This alternative is not recommended as the names meet the Council approved criteria as outlined in HRM Asset Naming Policies.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A: Commemorative Name Application for Commemorative Names List
- Attachment B: Paul Mason Ball Diamond
- Attachment C: Bill Ross Memorial Ball Diamond
- Attachment D: Justin Coward Memorial Ball Diamond
- Attachment E: Shiptside Lane Park
- Attachment F: McIntosh Run Regional Park
- Attachment G: Administrative Park Names

A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Gayle MacLean, Civic Addressing Coordinator 902.490.4105

Report Approved by: Steve Higgins, Manager Current Planning 902.490.4382

Financial Approval by: Jane Fraser, Director of Finance, Asset Management and ICT/CFO 902.490.4630

Report Approved by: Kelly Denty, Director, Planning and Development 902.490.4800

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## **Attachment A – Commemorative Name Application for Commemorative Names List**

### 1. Frances Fish's Application

#### Request

-Street or Building

#### Geographic Location

- Halifax (preferably peninsula)

#### Request to be considered under the following criteria

- requested name is historically significant to the development of HRM, Province of NS and/or Canada
- requested name reflects the history and or culture of HRM's culturally diverse communities.

#### Biography (as provided by the applicant)

Ms Fish was born in Newcastle, New Brunswick in 1888. She was a well-educated woman who, after completing her Master's Degree in Greek at an American University and teaching for a while, applied and was accepted at Dalhousie's University's law school. Once there, she excelled and was the first woman to graduate from Dalhousie with her LLB on May 9, 1918.

Midway through her third and final year, 1917-18, Fish was on campus on the morning of December 6, 1917, when the explosion of a munitions-laden steamer in Halifax Harbour destroyed a part of the city, killing or fatally injuring 2,000 people and doing significant damage to university buildings. There were injuries but no fatalities among staff and students. Fish was one of those walking wounded who sustained psychological damage rather than physical injury. Standing on the steps of the university library when the explosion occurred, she was knocked unconscious; when she came round she found a man's severed head frozen to her leg. Fish suffered from post-traumatic stress – “nervous collapse” – as a result of this incident, which had a severe mental and emotional impact throughout her life. In light of this, it is doubtful whether she would have been well enough to join the 104 women students who helped provide emergency medical care to injured survivors of the disaster.

Admitted to the Bar of Nova Scotia in September 1918 she again setting a precedent as the first woman and was front page news of the Evening Mail in Halifax. After graduation she remained in Halifax for less than two years, working with two different law firms. From then she went on to Ottawa, where she obtained a post in the Department of Finance. During her career she was an advocate for the oppressed, the exploited and the disadvantaged, especially women, children and the underclass. She ended her career in Newcastle, NB where she was the Deputy Magistrate and Judge of Probate for the County of Northumberland.

In 1972 she was quoted as saying she never planned to retire and did practice until about a year before her death in 1975 (aged 87).

There is currently a picture of her on one of the walls at the Halifax Law Courts at 1815 Upper Water Street.

## Attachment B – Paul Mason Ball Diamond

### 1. Paul Mason Ball Diamond Application

#### Request

-Rename the Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park Ball Diamond #2 to the Paul Mason Ball Diamond (see map below)

#### Geographic Location

- within Astral Drive Elementary & Junior High School Park, 236/238 Astral Drive, Cole Harbour

#### Request to be considered under the following criteria

- individual(s) who have demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of HRM, NS and/or Canada.
- individual(s) who have an extraordinary community service record

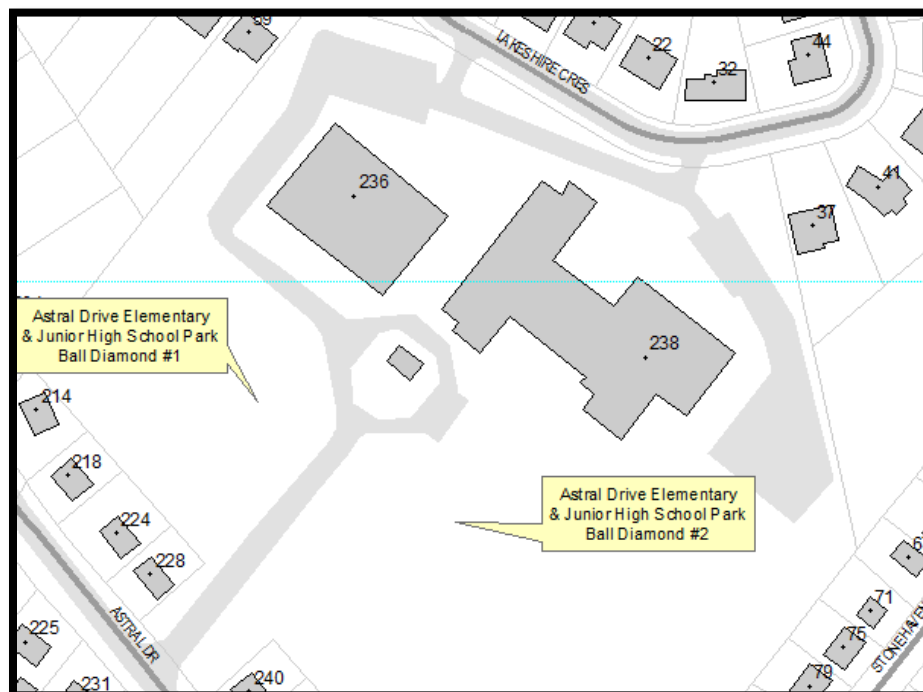
#### Biography (as provided by the applicant)

Mr Mason has coached for 40 years at every age group for both baseball and hockey. He started coaching baseball with Humber Park with his dad as a teenager in 1979. Some years later, he started coaching in Cole Harbour when his son started playing. He has spent many years coaching the Dartmouth Arrows program with his son and most recently with the NS U13 Selects. One summer he filled as many as five roles from President of Humber Park baseball to coach or assistance-coach of 4 teams. He has gone above and beyond to make sure these athletes have a place to play. He has dragged fields, lined fields, drained water off field to ensure games or tournaments could continue, cut grass and he's done it with the support from his family which all started with his dad.

His hockey coaching won him the Hockey Nova Scotia Award of Merit and their Coach of the Year in 2011.

He has also served on many organizing committees and chaired provincial and Atlantic Championships, assisted the Cole Harbour Hockey Association as the co-founder of the Joe Lamontagne March Break Tournament (in its 36<sup>th</sup> year), and the Sidney Crosby shootout.

In 2017, he was recognized for his amazing work and was inducted into the Maritime Sports Hall of Fame. He is currently the principal at Astral Drive Junior High School.



## Attachment C – Bill Ross Memorial Ball Diamond

### Request

-Rename Meadowbrook Park Ball Diamond #1 to Bill Ross Memorial Ball Diamond (see map below)

### Geographic Location

- within Meadowbrook Park, 19 Beech St, Bedford

### Request to be considered under the following criteria

- individual(s) who have an extraordinary community service record

### Biography (as provided by the applicant)

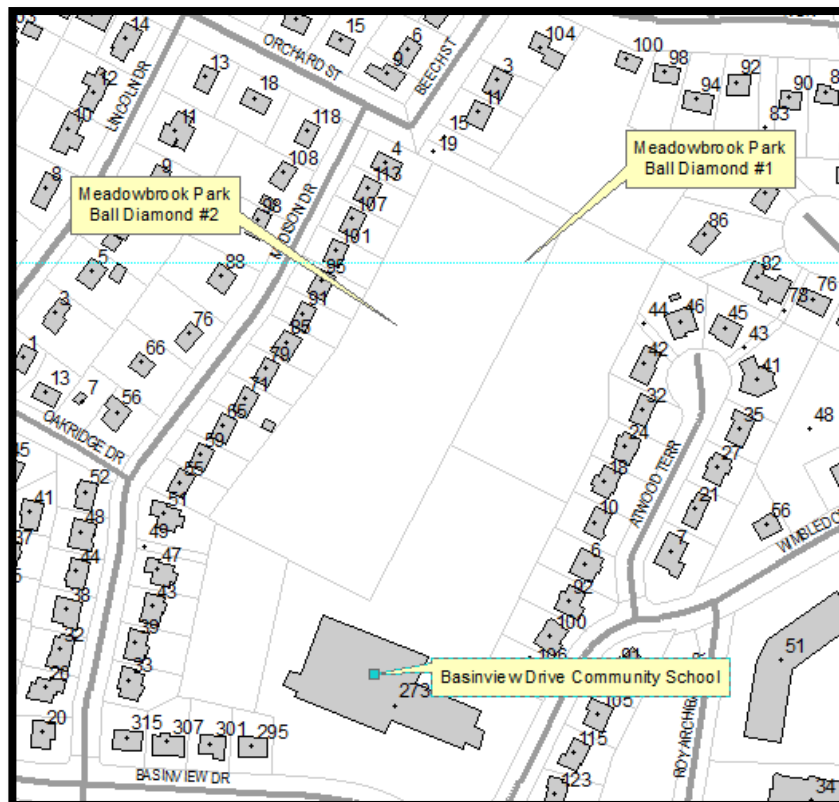
Mr Ross was born in 1942 in Halifax and resided in Bedford for over 40 years. He spent the majority of his career at the Workers Compensation Board of NS as a computer system administrator.

In 1982 a number of fathers got together and formed a Bedford baseball program for 50 participants age 9-13. One of those fathers was William (Bill) Ross. He spent countless volunteer hours organizing, coaching and umpiring to make each baseball season a success. Through his volunteer work for the Bedford Baseball Association he was instrumental in getting Bedford to host the first ever 13U National Championship in 1990. At the time the Baseball Canada event was called the Cracker Jack Cup. This event put Bedford on the map nationally as it saw teams from all across Canada participate.

Bill served Bedford Minor Baseball for many years under many titles, one of which was President for many years. He also served on the Bedford Recreation Committee and Bedford Minor Hockey in various capacities.

Bill received one of the Celebration 88 Medals from the Bedford Olympic Torch Committee for his dedication to amateur sports. In 1993 Bill attended the Canada Games in Kamloops as a member of the Nova Scotia Canada Games Baseball Team as the Chef de Mission.

At the age of 74, he passed away in 2017.



## Attachment D –Justin Coward Memorial Ball Diamond

### Request

-Officially rename Humber Park Elementary School Park Ball Diamond to Justin Coward Memorial Ball Diamond (see map below)

### Geographic Location

- within Humber Park Elementary School Park, 5 Smallwood Ave, Lake Loon

### Request to be considered under the following criteria

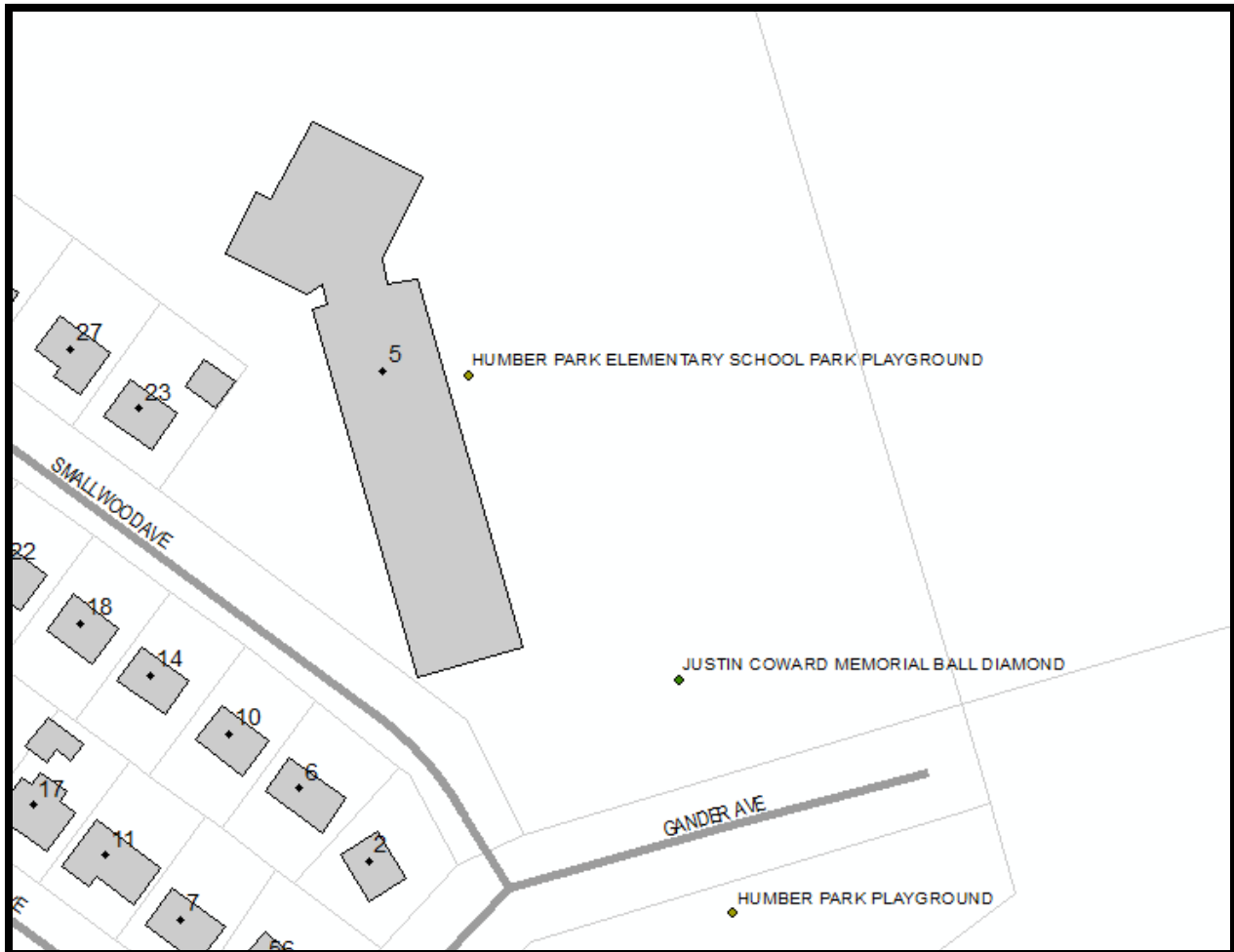
- park was renamed in 1999, prior to the policy, HRM park feature sign is currently posted

### Biography

Biography: (b. 1985-1998)

At the age of 13, Justin Ryan Coward was a highly regarded, multi-sport athlete, captain of a provincial championship basketball team, and an above average student. He helped those around him become better at sports and academics and was well known in his community. He received 40 sport awards in basketball and baseball from 1993-1998.

There is a Justin Coward Memorial Society, which states that the ball diamond was renamed in his honour in 1999. The society runs an annual Justin Coward Memorial Basketball Tournament in his name.





## Attachment E –Shipside Lane Park

### Request

- Rename Old Dalhousie School Site to Shipside Lane Park (see map below)

### Geographic Location

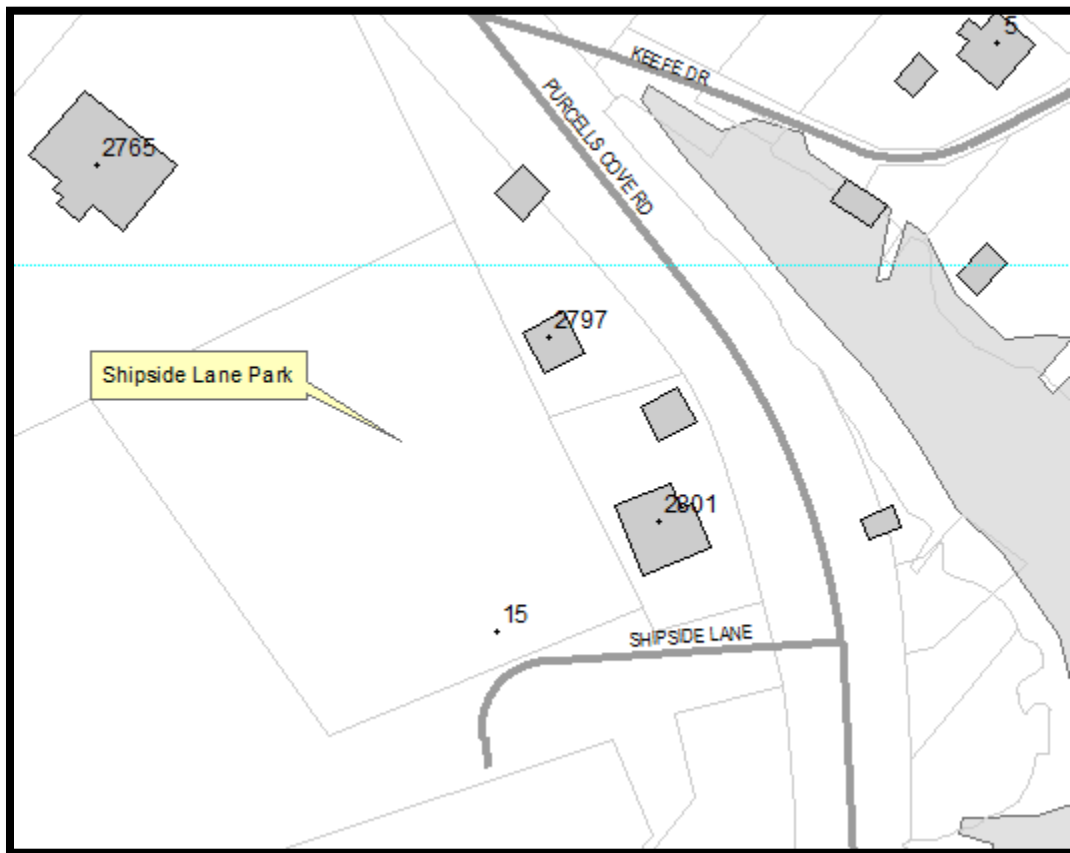
- 15 Shipside Lane, Halifax

### Renaming to be considered under the following policy

- An administrative name shall be applied to the asset unless a commemorative name is recommended.

### Biography

The park name, Old Dalhousie School Site, comes from a former school on the site. It is standard procedure to retire any school names associated with parks once the school has been demolished. In 2019, the laneway that accesses this park was named Shipside Lane. It was an opportune time to correct the issue with the park name.



## Attachment F –McIntosh Run Regional Park

### Request

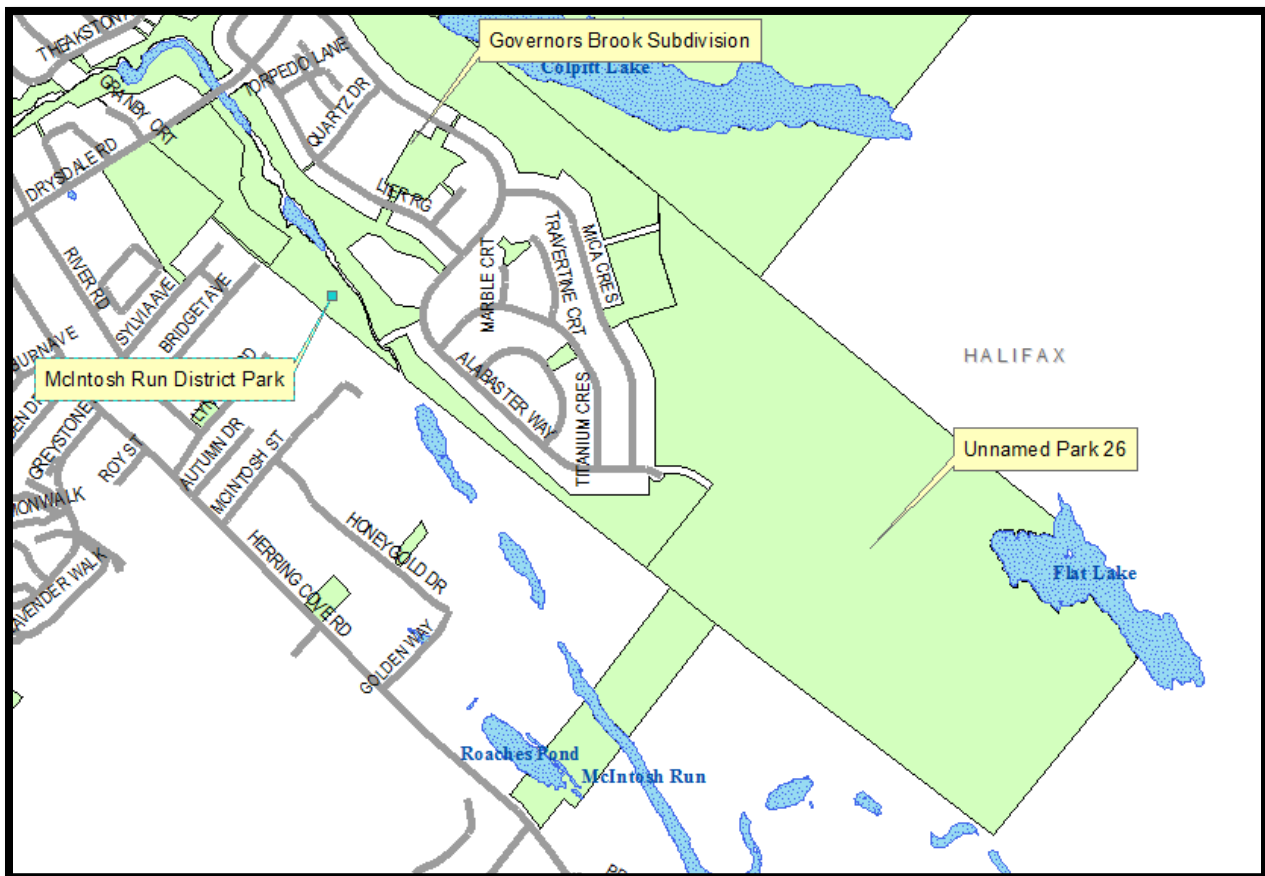
-Rename McIntosh Run District Park to McIntosh Run Regional Park and incorporate Unnamed Park 26 within the McIntosh Regional Park (see map below).

### Geographic Location

- 10 River Rd, Halifax
- 37 Danforth Rd, Halifax
- 171 Drysdale Rd, Halifax
- 143 Lier Ridge, Halifax

### Background

The current McIntosh Run District Park is approximately 15 hectares in size and abuts the currently named Unnamed Park 26. The Unnamed park is approximately 74 hectares in size. The change in size will increase the size of the park to a Regional Park scale.



**Attachment G –Administrative Park Names**

1. Park Road Park  
-46 Park Road, Musquodoboit Harbour (District 2)
2. Samaa Court Park  
-49 Samaa Court, Bedford (District 16)