



## Report

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**Subject:** Commemoration Bench Donation at Rotary Skatepark

**Department:** Community Services

**Division:** CMS

**Report #:** CMS-2024-026

**Meeting Date:** 2024-11-18

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### Recommendations

**That report CMS-2024-026, Commemoration Bench Donation at Rotary Skatepark, be received; and**

**That Council accept the donation of the bench to commemorate Orangeville resident, Jacob Sawyer at Rotary Skatepark; and**

**That Council direct staff to receive and install the donated bench at Rotary Skatepark.**

### Overview

This report is being submitted to provide information to Council to propose commemoration at Rotary Skatepark and to seek Council's direction on the matter.

Community Services Department Staff received a letter from Miss Preston, an Orangeville resident, requesting to donate a bench to commemorate her late partner Jacob Sawyer, an avid Rotary Skatepark patron.

In this case, the Commemorative Policy, as approved by Council on June 25, 2001, By-Law # 64-2001 applies. The Policy was put in place to permit residents to honour individuals who reside or did reside in the community.

### Background

Established in the 1980s, Rotary Park has been one of the major parks in Orangeville for several decades offering many amenities including a play structure, skateboard park, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, picnic areas, and a pathway leading to trailways within the downtown core of Orangeville.

Rotary Skatepark provides a central space where individuals and groups of all abilities can safely skateboard and be a part of a unique community.

### **Analysis/Current Situation**

Jacob Sawyer was born in Orangeville in 1997 and spent most of his childhood longing for the next adventure. Described as an abundantly authentic and thoughtful person, he was someone that was able to relate and connect to many people of different ages and experiences. Jacob frequented the Rotary Skate Park spending many hours over the years developing his skills and enthusiasm for the love of skateboarding.

As per the commemorations policy, all requests and donations honouring special persons are to be made in writing for Council's consideration. All funding to honour this special person is to be fully covered by the proponent, which Miss Preston has agreed to, and stated in the letter of request, in Attachments 1 and 2.

The location of the donated bench is at the discretion of the Parks Division and will ensure that the placement does not interfere with the activities at Rotary Skatepark.

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### **Corporate Implications**

There will be no cost implication to the Town of Orangeville as the bench will be fully covered by the proponent as per the Commemorations Policy.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is respectfully asking Council to acknowledge and accept the donation request to commemorate Jacob Sawyer as a complimentary representation of the inspiration, dedication, and inclusiveness that exists amongst the Rotary Skatepark community.

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### **Strategic Alignment**

#### **Strategic Plan**

Strategic Goal: Community Vitality

Objective: Well Being – Support citizen and staff health, security and well being, and build a more inclusive community.

#### **Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan**

Theme: Social Well Being

