

Appendix A
Apeldoorn Park Renaming Feedback

Question: *Are you in favour of changing the name of the park on Elgin Avenue to Apeldoorn Park in honour of our twin city in the Netherlands?*

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Elgin carries a long history - we have many new parks - WHY ARE THEY NOT BEING CONSIDERED - why is the city so easy to throw its history away

I understand that Apeldoorn, because of the economic situation, has decided to hold off on creating a Burlington park. Why then, are we rushing to create one here? Shouldn't this be something that is done in unison?

It would be very appropriate

Agreed...first, I didn't know there was a park on Elgin before this survey...and Apeldoorn sounds better than Elgin...and it is fitting and appropriate since it ain't much without the Dutch!

I like this idea. It's great to show our commitment to this twinning agreement.

Why not? There's the bench in Spencer Smith Park and the mundalization [sic] committee and associated bilateral visits, and renaming the Elgin Park is simply an extension of existing policy and practice.

It is always nice to show our recognition of friendship with our international neighbours.

How about a compromise? Why not rename the park Elgin-Apeldoorn? That way we keep some of the history.

Not naming the park after Apeldoorn would be an insult to the people of our twin city, and the Netherlands in general. I can't believe anyone would be against this. Many other cities would love to have this kind of exchange with a Dutch city.

Stop changing existing names! Keep it the Same!!!

we should follow through on the commitment we made to Apeldoorn,. and name the park Apeldoorn Park.

If we do not do that, we are dishonoring our commitment made in 2007.

Let's get on with the program and re-name the park as soon as we can.

Please do-- I thought that had already been decided.

I think the name change is a great idea! It will indicate how much we value our position in the international community and our relationship with Apeldoorn.

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As the park was named after the street it is on and not for a Burlington resident, I see issue with changing the name as the street name will remain Elgin.

Was the park named after Lord Elgin? Like the former high school? I feel if it was, that another part of that community will be forgotten.

I think it is a wonderful gesture!

Are people in Apeldoorn changing the names of any of their parks to Burlington Park?

This name change was never raised at any of the public sessions and to raise it now, in the middle of the summer when so few people are really paying attention seems to me to be ill advised because it just looks as if people were not being completely honest about their real agendas at the earlier public meetings.

Absolutely! My grandfather was part of the coalition forces that liberated this region.

We have visited Apeldoorn. The bond of friendship is certainly evident. We need to solidify that bond and what better way than to name a park after Apeldoorn as they have done for us.

please keep Elgin Park intact; it's a meaningful name; install a substantial plaque to honour the Apeldoorn connection , perhaps in the brick pathway or planter wall.

"New City Park" is an odd name and doesn't have any history with residents. Rename that one to Apeldoorn Park.

I think it's a great idea that the people of Apeldoorn will design the park. Let's name it after their city for sure!

I knew some of the soldiers who had been there. A great love between the two cities.

It's confusing enough to have parks named after people, places or things that have no bearing on their actual location. Elgin Park is on Elgin. Easy peasy. HOWEVER, if the park in the Netherlands is changing the name of their park to Burlington Park, then it would be only suitable to change the name of our park accordingly.

There's not enough information above to make an informed decision.

This is a wonderful way to recognize the twinning relationship between Burlington and Apeldoorn. I hope that the City proceeds with this change, for a project that has already been in the works for a number of years. What an embarrassment if we do not proceed as this stage.

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Generally I think schools and parks and other public places should be named after the street or district where they are located. However, in this case there is a strong reason for going ahead with the Apeldoorn name.

Why is this an issue now and why are we spending time and money on renaming a park, when the City just built two parks in the north that could have easily been named Apeldoorn Park? So, again confused as to why are we wasting time and money on this issue, when there are other things the City can focus resources on?

So many communities name malls and parks after simplistic juxtapositions of street names or intersections. Too much political correctness to upset using a name that may draw citizens' complaints...or be hard to locate. Well nuts to that - we all have google and can find anything in 5 seconds. So.... Bravo - move the agenda of the community forward with meaningful names that honour the communities' achievements or recognize a key historical figure.

Would be nice to have something with meaning, but if you are going to rename it, please don't just rename it, but put a plaque somewhere in the park explaining its name and its history.

Existing parks should be left alone to recognize the history. The Netherlands is a sport mad nation, also a soccer powerhouse. New City Park should take the name of Apeldoorn in recognition of the sport facilities there.

A great way to publicize our twin city.

It is the best thing to do to continue fostering this relationship.

Lovely idea!

It makes sense, and creates a positive international presence in the community.

There are strong bonds between people in Burlington and Apeldoorn, and a park named to celebrate this is a great idea.

It is a great honour to be able to recognize our heroes of the past. We think it's a great idea!

It is my understanding that Apeldoorn has cut the budget for a park, and now it is just a "feature" I STRONGLY DO NOT want to re-name the park.

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My father, a WWII vet, was in Apeldoorn some time after it was taken. I was able to visit the city with him in 1984 and he described how it looked then and how it had changed in those years. He now has Alzheimer's but he still remembers his experiences from that time. He lives in Nova Scotia but Apeldoorn Park would have a special meaning for me.

I believe the name change is very appropriate and honors the relationship between the two cities.

Sure why not. Maybe we can adopt some of their cycling and walk ability practices in turn.

It should also be noted that St. Luke's Church has property adjacent to the park and have been participating in the redesign process as well.

I was told that the park that was to be built in Apeldoorn to honour the City of Burlington is not presently going forward due to financial restrictions. If the understanding that this was to happen I see no need to rename the park until the commitment to Burlington is honoured.

Let's not set a precedent of changing the names of parks.  
Use that name when a new park is created.  
There is sufficient recognition for the twinning.

I selected Not in Favour as you have not identified the cost of renaming the park.

Why not just name it the Apeldoorn Elgin St Park?

Absolutely. The name will reflect the park design

We think that a park should be named Apeldoorn , but not ELGIN, WE ARE BUILDING NEW PARKS IN OUR CITY LETS NAME ONE OF THEM APELDOORN . BOTH ARE WORTHEY.

We are from the Netherlands, and I do not think that a Canadian civic park not just named for a street, but for a great person Lord Elgin. I also have not heard that Apeldoorn has agreed to rename one of their existing civic parks Burlington park. I could be wrong , but as of the article in the post last week that was not the case. Why do we not name a new park Apeldoorn, rather than destroying a current park, just so someone who was born there, and probably lives near the park can go and spend time in it.

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I feel a new park should get the name not a park that already has an established name.

It's only right to recognize the wonderful relationship we have with Apeldoorn.

Keep life simple. Fix the roads, clear the snow. Don't pee away money on trivialities.

It is our park and should have a name reflecting our local heroes or significant historical events from primarily the Burlington area.

Lovely gesture. Since it is on Elgin St it seems not to undermine the importance of lord Elgin. The renaming of lord Elgin high school after a still-living sketch-drawer however I will never understand.

How much will this cost tax payers in total?... labour, signs, marketing, etc.

Since we are giving Apeldoorn the opportunity to design the park, and it is in recognition of the twinning of Burlington and Apeldoorn, it is entirely appropriate that the park be named Apeldoorn Park.

First you rename Lord Elgin High School for Bateman, now you are suggesting to rename Elgin Park. Lord Elgin was very important to this area when it was first developed, let's keep our history. Why don't you name a new park in honour of our friendship with Apeldoorn. Don't give away our heritage.

It is an excellent idea to change the name.

My cousin was part of the Canadian army that freed Apeldoorn.

Only if Apeldoorn renames a park to Burlington Park

We owe it.

I think it's a perfect way to pay tribute to both our Canadian soldiers, and the subsequent recognition of what those soldiers did by the citizens of Apeldoorn. We owe it to those who served to remember their honorable acts.

Great idea. So people who don't know will understand the significance of the name, I suggest also placing a plaque in the park saying words to the effect: "On April 17, 1945, Canadian soldiers liberated the city of Apeldoorn, the Netherlands. For years after that, Apeldoorn held massive parades every five years to honour its Canadian heroes."

Would be neat if a park in Apeldoorn was named in our honour as well...

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We did not agree that we would design parks "named for the twin cities" but I'm rarely a fan of naming a park after the street it's on. I am not aware of any other significance to the name Elgin and as a long time resident of Burlington, think of Lord Elgin HS which is far away from this park. If the name change takes place, I would expect there's a plaque or other signage to help people understand what Burlington's relationship is with Apeldoorn.

I think it would be nice when you ask a question like this that you show the address and a picture of the park. I know Elgin quite well and yet can only think of Brock Park on the corner of Elgin at the Burlington Art Centre. Where is the park? Either way I think it is nice recognition of the twinning relations and those that have worked so hard on the relationship.

I think this name will reflect the important role Canadian soldiers played in the liberation of Holland in the Second World War, and the gratitude the Dutch have expressed about that ever since. It also refers to the ongoing close relationship between Canada and the Netherlands.

Lord Elgin is remembered in the name of the street, so our colonial past is not forgotten. Apeldoorn Park honours Canada's world contributions as a mature and independent country.

As member of the Apeldoorn Burlington Committee in the Netherlands we would appreciate if the name "Apeldoorn Park" would stay. Although the future of the Burlington Park in Apeldoorn is uncertain at the moment.

I hope we get a Burlington Park in Apeldoorn as promised.  
Good luck!

To underline the bond between Holland and Canada.

Last month we visited your wonderful city and stayed with the Matz family ( medal Queen Elisabeth 's Jubilee on Canada Day!) and he showed us the bank, gift of Apeldoorn .Apeldoorn and Burlington belong together, many Canadians gave their life for our freedom in 1945, we do remember that twice a year, on the 17th of April ( Apeldoorn free) and on the 11th of November. When you enter Apeldoorn there is a sign that says that Burlington is our twin city. At the moment Apeldoorn has big financial problems and the Burlington park has to wait a few years till the recession is over.  
Apeldoorn loves Burlington

I'm from Apeldoorn and I would love that idea  
(and to (re)name a park in Apeldoorn to Burlington as well)

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I have already voted but would suggest you goggle Lord Elgin - Canada site to learn more about what Lord Elgin gave to Canada.

Please consider naming a bigger park after Lord Elgin if you must name the present after a friend.

I am in favor. Being born in Holland, my parents and grandparents were actively involved during the war. My dad was in the resistance and my grandparents were always hiding people from the resistance and they hid a Jewish girl during the war. They always gave food to those who didn't have it. I've heard so many stories, I can write a book about it. Last but not least when Holland was liberated and especially by these handsome Canadians soldiers!

My own story however is that I lived in Apeldoorn while I met my husband. Our son is born there and when he was 9 months we emigrated to Canada and we settled in Burlington. So Apeldoorn and Burlington have a very special connection for all of us. Thanks!!

It again provides info on what happens during wars and should not happen again.

I wanted to hear the name's pronunciation to begin with please. I'll be able to decide more favorably once I'd be able to hear it. Thank you

Why rename parks that everybody already knows? Name a NEW park.

Always nice to have a park name to have a specific attachment. To name a park with the name of a street seems the lazy way out. Streets usually have some reason for their names, and that should be honour enough

My only question is regarding the significance of the name Elgin. It would be good to know what we are replacing. Can the City put this information on the website?

Yes I like that idea, however Apeldoorn seems to have trouble to name or rename a park in Apeldoorn.

Since the park was not originally named to recognize a particular citizen, I see no wrong in renaming it. The new name would give recognition to our Canadian soldiers - would want to see a plaque outlining this for all to understand.

It is a done deal so might as well change the name to reflect the planning and design. Surprised city bothers to even ask now after the fact.

This would be a very appropriate name change - our relationship with Apeldoorn is a current, living thing. Lord Elgin has been dead for a very, very long time. History is very important, but let's have a name that reflects the Burlington of today.

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Why don't we keep our heritage!

I ascribe no value to the twin city aspect; why not name the park after an Olympian? I propose Oldershaw in honour of the 5 generations of Oldershaw that have dedicated their lives to represent Canada at the Olympics!

Rebranding a park that has been under the same name for years will cost more money in the long run. Can we not be smart and name one of the new parks in the future in one of the new areas being built up.

What is wrong with the Planning Department? We have our own famous people and cities in Canada. How we name the park after our Heritage, first native or black settlers in the area, Thanks what we need to do, name after the people that had a influence on our city.

Cannot imagine why the idea would be opposed.

I am of Dutch heritage so I am all for it!

Yes, I think that is good idea and the name is an interesting name.

I am very much in favour, not only did I grow up in Burlington, I was also born in Apeldoorn in 1982.

Absolutely a great idea to honour the Canadian soldiers liberated in the City of Apeldoorn and the City of

Burlington's efforts as twin cities. 'Apeldoorn' has such a deeper meaning and inspiration. Keep up the great efforts Burlington!

I don't think that the name of a park should be changed when it's name already reflects the area where it is. If it's that important, then give that name to a newly created park. Apeldoorn is not easy to pronounce either.

Not only the honour of it but the universal unity and development of the cultural equality by doing so.

What an insult to Apeldoorn if we do not honour them in this fashion.

Wonderful idea! The name will give more meaning to the park and serve as a reminder of the sacrifices Canada made during WW2 and the deep bond Canada shares with the Netherlands.

Good idea to have a poll/vote like this. I am in favour of participative democracy.

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A bit of history will live on every time someone asks about the origin of the park's name.

In favour to change name to Apeldoorn in honour of partnership. Recommend park in Netherlands designed by Burlington be named "Burlington" if has not been done so already.

Not following through with our promise is shameful. Correct ASAP please.

Why don't we rename Burlington to Apeldoorn ,wouldn't that be more fitting .Look Canadians died liberating Holland .I don't think the soldiers who died in Holland would be happy renaming a park named after a Canadian person to a city in Holland

Can we keep the original name and add Apeldoorn to the name of the park i.e. Apeldoorn-Elgin Park or Elgin-Apeldoorn Park? The Elgin part also helps with locating the park - since it is located on Elgin Street. Plus Lord Elgin was an important person in early Ontario history.

We seem to be removing names that are of historical significance to our area - at one time we had a "Gore Park" and a Gore Street, a Sims Square and a Spencer Smith Park - we keep renaming things that many of us longer-term residents recognized as part of Burlington's history. Thanks for your consideration.

Great idea...born in the Netherland and knowing how much Canada and Canadians are appreciated (even by the younger generation) and I would say even loved, I am all for it.

I think that this is a great idea!