

## MANAGEMENT REPORT

**Date:** April 17, 2025  
**To:** Community Services Sub-committee  
**From:** Quin Malott – Parks, Forestry & Cemetery Manager  
**Report Number:** COM25-002  
**Attachments:** None

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**Title:** Mervyn “Butch” Blake Recognition Follow-up

**Objective:** To provide Sub-committee with an update regarding the recognition of Mervyn “Butch” Blake for his contributions to the Stratford Festival.

**Background:** At the October 17, 2024, Community Services Sub-committee meeting, Andrew Blake, son of Mervyn “Butch” Blake made a presentation requesting a memorial bench be dedicated in honour of his father who worked at the Stratford Festival. The following motion was passed:

**THAT the request from Andrew Blake be referred to City staff to investigate options to recognize Mervyn “Butch” Blake for his contributions to the Stratford Festival.**

**Analysis:** A memorial bench is now being financed by the Stratford Festival Theatre and will be replacing an older wooden bench located on the south side of Lower Queens Park facing the cricket pitch.

**Financial Implications:**

**Not applicable:**

There are no financial implications to be reported as a result of this report.

**Alignment with Strategic Priorities:**

**Not applicable:** The purpose of this report is to provide an update regarding the recognition of Mervyn “Butch” Blake for his contributions to the Stratford Festival.

**Alignment with One Planet Principles:**

**Not applicable:** The purpose of this report is to provide an update regarding the recognition of Mervyn "Butch" Blake for his contributions to the Stratford Festival.

**Staff Recommendation: THAT the report titled, "Mervyn "Butch" Blake Recognition Follow-up" (COM25-002), be received for information and the request filed.**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Quin Malott, Parks, Forestry & Cemetery Manager
<b>Recommended by:</b>	Tim Wolfe, Director of Community Services
	Adam Betteridge, Interim Chief Administrative Officer