



**For Immediate Release**

**Algonquin Highlands, Ontario**

**Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024**

**4 P.M.**

**Release #24-02**

**Subject: Establishment of Tapscott Lopes Park in Dorset**

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The Township of Algonquin Highlands is pleased to announce its acquisition of the Dorset Pavilion and Community Park in the hamlet of Dorset. The park has been gifted to the Township by cottagers Don Tapscott C.M. and Ana Lopes C.M. and has been renamed “Tapscott Lopes Park” in recognition of its donors.

“We know how important this property is to the residents of Dorset and we are so happy we’ve been able to continue its legacy as a public space and crucial community asset, through this generous donation” said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Liz Danielsen. “Along with the completion of the Dorset Recreation Centre rehabilitation project and the return of Haliburton County Public Library services, it’s an extremely exciting year for Dorset.”

“We have decided that the Township of Algonquin Highlands is a trustworthy partner for this gift, and we are delighted that the community and surrounding districts will continue to enjoy this much beloved facility,” said Ms. Lopes.

As part of the gift agreement, the Township will create an Indigenous Garden in the park in collaboration with Indigenous stakeholders.

“We congratulate Mayor Danielsen, and Council on their leadership in making this partnership happen,” said Mr. Tapscott. “It’s so exciting to see elected representatives put the interests of their citizens first” he said.

An official opening of the park and celebration will be held this summer.

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