



Leonard Yakobovits – Tel. 905-709-7500 – email:Leonard@Dezco.ca

Date: 2013-06-15

To: Town of Vaughan Mayor Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua  
Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor Hon. Gino Rosati  
Regional Councillor Hon. Michael Di Biase  
Regional Councillor Hon. Deb Schulte  
Ward 1 Councillor Hon. Marilyn Iafrate  
Ward 2 Councillor Hon. Tony Carella  
Ward 3 Councillor Hon. Rosanna DeFrancesca  
Ward 4 Councillor Hon. Sandra Yeung Racco  
Ward 5 Councillor Hon. Alan Shefman

C	17
Item #	19
Report No.	28 (CW)
Council -	June 25/13

**Re: Street Naming Donation**

I want to humbly thank the Hon. Mayor and the City Councillors, for considering, facilitating and approving the Street Naming of Desideriu Boulevard, to honor my late Father, who passed away at the age of 95, on October-24-2006 at York Central Hospital, in the town of Vaughan.

My father was a Holocaust Survivor and lived a productive and honest life in the Town of Vaughan since 1985. It is my intention to humbly commemorate my Father's memory, by having a Street named after him, in the town that he lived the twilight of his years.

I donated, via a Charity Auction, on June-02-2010 to **BETH CHABAD ISRAELI COMMUNITY CENTRE**, a respectable Charity located in the Town of Vaughan. (Please find letter confirming my successful bid on naming a street in Vaughan)

My family and my extended family lives in the town of Vaughan since 1975, being an integral part to the growth and development of the most beautiful city in Canada.

Thank you for your time, consideration and support.

Leonard Yakobovits

Address: 77 Renaissance Court, Thornhill, Ontario, L4J 7W4  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 243, Concord, Ontario, L4k 1B4  
Tel: 905-709-7500  
E-mail: [Leonard@Dezco.ca](mailto:Leonard@Dezco.ca)

# **Desideriu Jakobovits**

**1911 – 2006**



**Desideriu Jakobovits passed on October 24, 2006 at York Central Hospital, during a Hip replacement surgery. He was 95 years old, married for 61 years to Notela.**

**His widow, Notela Jakobovits, active and independent, lives in the town of Vaughan.**

**Born in Transylvania, modern day Romania on February-04-1911. (In 1911, Transylvania was governed by the Austro Hungarian Empire, till after the end of World War I, in 1918)**

**During World War II, being a Jew under German occupation of Romania, Desideriu was send to slave labour camp till August-23-1944, when the Russian Red Army liberated Romania. The liberation came just hours before he was to be deported to death camps in Poland.**

**He was recognized as a Holocaust Survivor.**



Desideriu made Canada his home in 1985 and lived with his wife Notela, frequently visiting with his 2 children, Leonard and Adriana, his 4 grandchildren (Janet, Vivian, Dylan and Amanda) and his great grandchild Joey Rucker. Since Desideriu's passing, 2 Great Grandchildren were born (Desi and Danny Rucker).

All these large families live in the town of Vaughan, paying property taxes to the town of Vaughan and remembering the legacy of Desideriu, based on the deep family values he enshrined in all of his family.

The community volunteering and community contributions, were the guide I received from my late father among other counsel and he would be proud to know, that I volunteer for the past 20 years. Lately, as the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, Southern York Region Chapter, Member of the Board of Governors of B'nai Brith Canada and the Chairman of the oldest Jewish Newspaper in Canada, The Jewish Tribune.

It is our tradition and custom, to keep the namesake and legacy of Desideriu, commemorating and remembering his hardship in life, his successes and ambitions, his clever counsel and support and his gentle and sensitive soul.

As a family, we name children born after his death in his name and honour, and donate to local charities to name streets after Desideriu.

The name Desideriu, is a Romanian variation on the Anglo Saxon English noun "Desire". There are famous people named on the variations of the noun Desire, and Max Ehrmann, a 19<sup>th</sup> century poet, wrote a famous poem named "Desiderata" (please see attached).

According to Wikipedia, Desideriu was the name of a Saint, a Benedict Monk, Archbishop of Vienna and the private name of Pope Victor III, among other entries.

It is also the name of a Jewish Holocaust Survivor, of Hungarian, Romanian, Israeli and Canadian roots, that lived an honest, proud and productive life and has a family that donated generously to name a street in Vaughan, in Desideriu's honor.

It is NOT my intention to "stuck" anyone on a street named Desideriu and I am sure that it is not anyone's intention to deny the street name Desideriu, just out of ignorance, spite, political capital or ethnic challenges.

I have donated a respectable sum of money, to a Vaughan based and operated, dominant and visible charity, for the privilege to name a street in Vaughan.

I did it out of community spirit and responsibility wishing to honour my late father, Desideriu, with a street named Desideriu in the city, he called home, in the winter of his life.

Thank you for your consideration and please approve the name DESIDERIU Boulevard.

Leonard Jakobovits, Son of Desideriu Jakobovits

77 Renaissance Court,  
Thornhill, Ontario L4J7W4  
Tel.: 905-709-7500  
Email: [Leonard@Dezco.ca](mailto:Leonard@Dezco.ca)

MAILING Address:  
P.O. Box 243,  
Concord, Ontario  
L4K 1B4