

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: **Councillor Minnan-Wong**

Seconded by: **Councillor Parker**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Michael Schofield on Thursday, February 12, 2009.

Michael Schofield had over 27 years of service with Toronto Community Housing. He started with Toronto Community Housing as a custodian, moved to Project Superintendent and spent 20 years serving senior citizens, whom he adored and respected. He served them with pride and knew their families by name. He said, "I'm now serving the children of the parents who lived here when I started".

Michael, never Mike, was an active volunteer and leader at Toronto Community Housing and his passion for life and people will be missed. Michael was an active participant on the corporation's Rewards and Recognition committee since its inception in 2002. He was tireless in his efforts to ensure that the program was inclusive and celebrated the invaluable contributions of all staff. He left the committee in 2004 as he was asked by his Manager to give other staff an opportunity to participate on committees. In 2005 he was recognized by the organization for his contributions in 2004, and was presented with two of the Corporate Awards - the Humanitarian Award and the Don Filey Service Excellence Award.

For the past three years Michael was the co-chair of the Toronto Community Housing's Gay Pride float entry. His activism and leadership helped Toronto Community Housing promote inclusion and pride in community. He was already talking about changes to the float for the 2009 Pride Parade, including plans to engage TCHC youth in its construction.

Michael was active in local sports and community activities, often dressing up as Santa Claus at his local community centre. The week before his death, he organized a food drive to coincide with an all staff meeting at his building. He said, "unfortunately too many of my tenants will need the food bank this winter and it's just up the street".

He was a loyal Toronto Maple Leaf fan, devoted parent and husband.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Michael Schofield's family.

February 23, 2009