

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

Seconded by: Councillor Michelle Berardinetti

The Mayor and Members of Toronto Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Pat Derby on February 15, 2013.

Pat Derby was the first to champion the cause of performing animals, and today, because of her work and her fierce determination, most animal protection organizations have captive wildlife programs that address the issues of performing animals.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Pat worked on television shows like *Flipper*, *Daktari*, *Gunsmoke* and *Lassie*, and wrangled a pair of pumas, Chauncey and Christopher, that appeared with model-actress Farrah Fawcett in popular commercials for the Mercury Cougar.

Pat said that she developed her own training methods based on love and trust, but was stunned by the abuse and neglect she saw among other animal trainers in the entertainment industry. She often served as the public face and voice for performing animals, in recent years fighting primarily to get elephants out of circuses and zoos and into sanctuaries.

Her 1976 autobiography, *The Lady and Her Tiger*, served as both a memoir and a groundbreaking expose of Hollywood's treatment of animals. By 1984, she began shifting her emphasis from training to activism, opening the first PAWS sanctuary in Galt, Calif. The Paws sanctuary has since welcomed many elephants:

- 71 – African elephant surrendered by owner; malnourished, chronically sick, and nearly dead
- Mara – African elephant from San Jose Happy Hollow Zoo
- Maggie – African elephant from Alaska Zoo
- Wanda & Winky – Asian elephants from the Detroit Zoo
- Nicholas – Asian bull elephant; obtained from a circus breeding facility
- Ruby – African elephant from Los Angeles Zoo
- Sabu – Asian bull elephant; retired circus elephant

Pat most recently made news when she offered to coordinate flying three African elephants from the Toronto Zoo to the 2,300-acre PAWS sanctuary in San Andreas. Of all the animals, the elephants were closest to her heart. "It had to begin with elephants," Pat wrote in her book. "I was born in love with all elephants, not for a reason that I know, not because of any of their individual qualities — wisdom, kindness, power, grace, patience, loyalty — but for what they are altogether, for their entire elephantness." Shortly before her death, an African elephant at a sanctuary in Kenya was named "Pat Derby" to honor her work.

Pat Derby will be dearly missed by Ed Stewart, her partner of 37 years, her many other family and friends, and everyone at PAWS.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Pat Derby.

February 21, 2013