

## CONDOLENCE MOTION

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**Moved by:** Councillor James Pasternak

**Seconded by:** Councillor Jonathan Tsao

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened by the passing of George Arthur Neal on April 4, 2016 at the age of 97.

Mr. Neal was a member of the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame. He began his aviation career at the Toronto Flying Club in 1935 where he would earn his Private Pilot's License a year later. He would work at de Havilland Aircraft of Canada (DHC) from 1937 to 1941.

In 1941 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) where he would go on to become a Flight Commander, Chief Test Pilot and Assistant Maintenance Superintendent at the No. 10 Air Observers School in Chatham, New Brunswick.

He rejoined de Havilland Aircraft of Canada (DHC) in 1946 where would work for the next 37 years. In 1948 he would be named Chief Test Pilot and was one of the first civilian pilots in Canada to become jet qualified. He would do demonstration and development testing of this aircraft across Canada and around the world.

Amongst Mr. Neal's many accomplishments winning Canada's most prestigious aviation award, the Trans-Canada (McKee) Trophy in 1989 and being Chief Pilot for the National Aviation Museum until 1991. The Royal Canadian Mint commemorated him in 1999 with a \$20.00 coin that featured his profile and the DHC-6 Twin Otter plane.

Mr. Neal continued flying until 2015, when he flew his personal DHC-1 Chipmunk from Toronto for display at the 43rd Annual Induction Gala of Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame. Guinness World Records would recognize him at age 96 for being the oldest active licensed pilot flying his own aircraft.

He will be dearly missed by his sisters Evelyn and Doris and many nieces and nephews.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincerest sympathies to Mr. Neal's family.

May 23, 2018