

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Josh Matlow

Seconded by: Councillor Shelley Carroll

The Mayor and Members of Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Frances (nee Bernholtz) Chapkin on Monday, June 10, 2019 at the age of 93.

Frances at an early age became an eager learner, always wanting to expand her intellectual horizons. She graduated from Harbord Collegiate, went on to the University of Toronto where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Honours Sociology degree in 1947. During the war years, Frances was a volunteer in a wartime day nursery. The little children fascinated her to the degree that it determined her future as an educator. Frances started work as a Kindergarten teacher at a Jewish school on Brunswick Avenue.

Frances managed to continue working part time outside the home while raising her children, as a marriage broker for the Scientific Introduction Centre. Then she was hired at Ryerson Open College to be a tutor at courses in Gerontology and Early Childhood Development.

Frances felt she needed to be better informed as an adult educator and enrolled at the Ontario Institute of Studies in education and received a Master's degree in Education in 1971. Frances was then elected 5 times as school trustee for the North York Board of Education, Ward 6 from 1971-1981, and served as their Vice Chair for one term.

In 1988, Frances officially retired from the working world. Frances became a full- time volunteer. Frances joined the Older Womens Network (became Chair), Canadian Pensioners Concerned, Givat Haviva, Ontario Health Coalition, Alliance of Jewish Seniors, and Toronto Seniors Forum. Frances served on the Board of Directors for Lumacare (formerly called Downsview Services for Seniors). Frances joined the Toronto Seniors Forum in 2013, when through Councillor Josh Matlow's efforts the Toronto Senior Strategy was unanimously adopted by City Council.

Frances took an active part in the development of the Strategic Plan, and as Chair of the Toronto Seniors Forum she participated in the multi-sectoral Accountability Table, headed by staff person Andrea Austen.

In 1975, Frances received an acknowledgement from Premier Bill Davis that she was nominated for the National Woman of the Year Award. In 2016 she received the Positive Aging Award from the National Institute on Aging, presented to her at Ryerson University. In 2018, Frances was honoured by Mayor Tory and given the Ontario Senior of the Year Award for Toronto.

Throughout her lifetime Frances was an ardent activist, change agent, a feminist and an adult educator. Frances fought to bring about social justice in the home, the school, the workplace and in the community.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Frances Chapkin's family.

June 19, 2019