



CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Layton

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Asokan Rasiah on January 9, 2021.

Asokan was the chef and owner of Peartree, a local restaurant loved by the community. Asokan immigrated to Canada from Sri Lanka in 1988 where Asokan first moved to the St. Jamestown neighbourhood. Asokan's humble beginnings at Peartree, managed by different owners at that time, started when he landed a job as a dishwasher on his second day in Canada. Within a month, Asokan transitioned into a line cook. Eventually, his love for cooking and his passion of working in the energetic kitchen environment led him to the role of Chef.

For several years, Asokan worked as the head chef and when the former restaurant owners decided to sell the place, Asokan immediately purchased and revamped the restaurant. Today, the vibrant Peartree is due to Asokan's hard work and dedication to providing quality food and comfort. Asokan was known for charisma and the incredible generosity he displayed in the community.

Losing those we love and care about is one of life's most profoundly difficult and devastating moments. Asokan will always be remembered and cherished by his family and community. Many have shared memories and kind words through a Rest in Peace Book. Please continue to share them as these memories will keep him in our hearts. Asokan will be missed.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincerest sympathy to Asokan's wife and children who have lost a husband and a father, as well as the Cabbagetown Community who lost a friend.

February 2, 2021