

***Expression of Condolence for
Dr. Harold Stein by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor Mike Colle

Seconded by: Councillor James Pasternak

Toronto City Council is deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Harold Stein on January 31, 2021.

Dr. Stein was a trailblazer in the field of ophthalmology, the field that he dedicated his life to over the span of 50 years, while raising his family with his beloved wife Anne. His interests were far reaching and his enthusiasm boundless. Harold practiced ophthalmology for over fifty years and was well known to doctors around the globe for his compassion, energy and academic achievements. He pioneered the profession of Ophthalmic Assistants who now practice around the world.

After graduating from the University of Toronto Medical School, Harold opened his first practice in Scarborough in 1958. He completed his residency at the Mayo Clinic and was very proud to co-found The Bochner Eye Institute named for his former partner and father-in-law, Dr. Maxwell Bochner, which became known as a leader in eye care and ophthalmological procedures. He worked his way up to becoming Chief Ophthalmologist at The Scarborough Hospital – a title he held for 35 years – where he performed Canada's first cornea transplant.

Harold left his mark on the field as one of the first surgeons in Canada to perform refractive surgery and pioneered the development of the intraocular lens for cataract surgery. He was also one of the first in North America to use this procedure and to practice laser vision correction.

Harold's enthusiasm and passion for the field was also evident in his role within the academic community as a full clinical professor at University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine since 1969 and on the faculty at Toronto's Centennial College since 1965. During his lifetime, he enjoyed teaching residents and authored over thirty-five textbooks.

Harold's commitment to others stretched beyond the academic field, performing delicate eye surgery firsthand in developing countries where he worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those suffering from blindness.

His dedication to his work was recognized throughout his lifetime, having received the Lifetime Achievement Award from The Canadian Society of Ophthalmology and the Lifetime Membership Award from the Ontario Medical Association. His beloved Scarborough community awarded him with the Scarborough General Hospital Board of Governors' Chairman's Award, the 200 Bi-Centennial Scarborough Civic Award of Merit, and the Scarborough Civic Award of Merit.

Harold will be deeply missed by the City of Toronto.

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

February 18, 2021