

***Expression of Condolence for
Faye Schulman by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor James Pasternak

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Colle

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Faye Schulman on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the age of 101 in Toronto

Faigel Lazebnik who was later known as Faye Schulman, was a photographer and a nurse born on November 28, 1919 in what was then Poland. Faye was the fifth of seven siblings that grew up in Lenin, a town by the Russian border. Faye learned photography through her older brother who opened up a studio in their family home. In 1942 when German troops invaded Faye's hometown and massacred 1,850 Jews, Faye was one of the 27 people spared as a result of her photographic abilities and was enlisted to take photos of the troops. Faye discreetly took photos of mass graves and hid the negatives so they could later be used as evidence in war crimes trials. Her photography and memoirs still stand as evidence against Holocaust deniers.

Faye was later part of a Russian resistance. Faye wanted people to know that there was a strong Jewish resistance against the Nazis and she is remembered for her role as being a part of the 30,000 Jews who joined the resistance, for her brave and firm fight and for her love of taking photos which served, not only as an austere document of the atrocities but also as visible proof of the courageous opposition that served alongside her. Faye's speaking engagements later in life had her telling the stories of the strength and determination of the resistance and the Jews that fought back against the Nazis.

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 Faye Schulman.

November 9, 2021