

Expression of Condolence for Loretta Rogers by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Mayor John Tory

Seconded by: Councillor Gary Crawford

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Loretta Rogers, a Canadian businesswoman and philanthropist, who passed away on June 11, 2022. Loretta was surrounded by close friends and family after a losing battle with cancer at the age of 83.

Loretta Anne Robinson was born in London, England on April 13, 1939 and was the daughter of Roland Robinson, 1st Baron Martonmere, and Maysie Gasque. Loretta was a young child during the Second World War, who was sent to live in New York for her own protection.

Loretta earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Miami and excelled in fine arts. In September 1963, she married Ted Rogers and settled down in Toronto with him. In the early years of their marriage, Loretta became a principal investor who was on the board of Ted's early radio company, which would later become Rogers Communications Inc. Loretta was a key partner in Rogers and one of Ted's closest advisors and confidantes until his death in 2008. Together with her husband, Loretta helped Rogers to become a very successful telecommunications company.

Loretta also took a keen interest in nature, wildlife and fine arts. She was passionate about painting and founded the Tobin Island of School of Fine Arts, where she acted as an instructor for her close friends. Her works have been displayed across Canada, in children's books and in the hallways of Rogers' headquarters in Toronto, which is dubbed "Loretta's Walk." Loretta was also a remarkably generous philanthropist who led her family in making landmark donations in the areas of healthcare and education, including in particular heart health and eating disorders.

Loretta Rogers will be remembered as a loving and patient mother whose soft-spoken influence was a rock of support for her husband, as they worked hard to build Rogers Communications Inc. together.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to her four children: Lisa Anne, Edward Samuel III, Melinda Mary and Martha Loretta and their families and her seven grandchildren, as well as the many close friends and business associates and all those whose lives she touched.

July 19, 2022