

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Mayor Miller

Seconded by: Councillor Nunziata

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Donald C. MacDonald on March 8, 2008.

As a prominent politician and political party leader for many years, Mr. MacDonald was often referred to as the “best Premier Ontario never had.” He entered politics in 1942, joining the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) in Ottawa where he was serving in the Canadian military. After finishing third in the 1953 federal election for the British Columbia riding of Kootenay East, he won the Ontario CCF leadership position the following year.

During his tenure as leader, Mr. MacDonald rebuilt the party which held only two seats when he was elected. In 1961, the CCF changed its name to the New Democratic Party (NDP). Mr. MacDonald stepped away from his leadership role in 1970. He remained an important part of the NDP for many more years, serving as the party’s federal president until 1975 and then as Chair of the NDP caucus from 1982 to 1985.

During his long career, Mr. MacDonald was hugely influential on public policy in Ontario. He fought for improvement in many important areas such medical care, the education system, workers’ rights and equality for women. His dedication and lifelong commitment to bettering the quality of life in Ontario will not be forgotten.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Mr. Donald C. Macdonald’s family.

March 31, 2008