

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: **Councillor Michael Thompson**

Seconded by: **Mayor David Miller**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of George Herczeg on July 10, 2010 at the age of 84.

Born in Hungary, Mr. Herczeg survived the Holocaust and immigrated to Canada where he rose from a restaurant dishwasher to become one of the Toronto's most influential builders and restorers of the city's most architecturally significant neighbourhoods. He was a pioneer in the renovation and revitalization of Cabbagetown, the Annex, Rosedale, Moore Park, Yonge & St. Clair and other deteriorating areas. His leadership in the renaissance of these historical communities re-energized Toronto's downtown and began a process that spread throughout the city.

For Mr. Herczeg, renovating buildings was a passion. He believed that his was not a fly-by-night business and was proud that he could visit former customers knowing his work steadfastly withstood the test of time.

Over the years, Mr. Herczeg earned many awards and accolades, including an Ontario Renews Award in 1984, a SAM Award for Best Low Volume Builder in 1985, and frequent recognition in major newspapers and magazines. When the Toronto Star dispatched a reporter to uncover Toronto's top ten streets, nine of them were within a few blocks of Mr. Herczeg's office.

Mr. Herczeg is survived by his wife Agnes, daughter Anita, son Ron, sister Clara, six grandchildren, and extended family and countless friends.

Toronto today is known as a “city of neighbourhoods” due in no small part to the vision, commitment and hard work of Mr. Herczeg. The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy, deep gratitude and utmost respect to Mr. Herczeg's family.

August 25, 2010