

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Mayor David Miller

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Joe Pantalone

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened by the passing of Mr. John Yaremko, Q.C. on Monday, August 9, 2010.

First elected in the west downtown riding of Bellwoods in 1951, John Yaremko served and represented the people of Toronto for 25 years, one of longest serving MPP's the history of the legislature and the first of Ukrainian origin. Mr Yaremko served in the cabinets of Premiers Frost, Robarts and Davis in seven different portfolios between 1958 and 1975.

Mr Yaremko has been honoured by a wide variety of cultural and ethnic organizations in Toronto, recognizing his contributions to their community efforts to build a new life in our city. Following his time in the Legislature, Mr Yaremko continued his advocacy for democracy and human rights in his parents' native Ukraine, supporting the creation of the Canadian Ukrainian Parliamentary Internship Program and was issued the Order of St. Andrew for his work for democracy in Ukraine.

In Toronto he leaves many community building legacies in health care and education, including, the John Yaremko Centre for Community Living at the Bellwoods Centre and numerous scholarships at his alma maters, The University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School. One his final acts was the endowment of the John Yaremko Chair in Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto, to be inaugurated this September.

Mr Yaremko truly espoused the very best qualities of public service and his dedication and service to all the people of Toronto will be remembered for many generations to come.

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

August 25, 2010