

## CONDOLENCE MOTION

**Moved by:** Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

**Seconded by:** Councillor Adam Vaughan

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of 'John Doe' and Joanne Mitchell.

'John Doe', who was homeless at the time of his death and whose real name and age have not been released by the Coroner's office, was hit on January 11, 2011 by a streetcar on Queen Street. He died of his injuries.

Joanne Mitchell, 60 was murdered in her home on January 23, 2011. She had been homeless for many years and had recently secured housing at a Toronto Community Housing Corporation building. She was born in Milton and moved to Toronto at the age of twelve and had worked as a Bell Canada sales representative. She had a daughter and seven grandchildren.

Toronto is Canada's largest city and sixth largest government. In a city as affluent as Toronto, there are over 25,000 men, women and children who find themselves homeless each year in Toronto. Every day, poverty, hunger, violence, abuse, addictions, mental health, and death are among the many challenges that homeless individuals must face. Since 1985, there have been over 600 recorded deaths of individuals who have lived and died on the streets of Toronto as a direct result of homelessness.

At noon on the second Tuesday of each month a group gathers at the south steps of Church of the Holy Trinity across from City Hall to remember all those who have died while homeless in Toronto. The Mayor, Members of Toronto City Council and the public are invited to attend this monthly vigil to remember these individuals who have lost their lives in part due to their homelessness.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to family and friends and to remember Joanne Mitchell, 'John Doe' and the many men, women and children who continue to struggle as they live on our streets.

February 7, 2011