

## CONDOLENCE MOTION

**Moved by: Councillor Pam McConnell**

**Seconded by: Councillor Paula Fletcher**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Elizabeth Harris on March 8, 2011.

Elizabeth Harris was a loving mother, a beloved teacher and a valued neighbour who gave much to those around her. She had a strong passion for children, food, and breaking down barriers between communities through teaching and travel.

Known as *Madame* to the children in Cabbagetown and Regent Park, she was not only their French teacher but a life mentor to them and their families. Her desire to break cultural barriers led to the development of an exchange program between Sprucecourt Public School and various schools in Quebec and France. Creating these life experiences was about more than just teachable moments, but a means to expand the horizons and boundaries of children and to open their eyes to better futures

Elizabeth Harris' leadership within her community has left a strong legacy through her work in founding the Friends of Riverdale Farm, opening and operating the Riverdale Farm Farmers' Market and as the first Manager of the Farmer's Market at Evergreen Brick Works.

Her lifelong commitment to securing better futures extended beyond her community, City and Country. Elizabeth Harris led the fundraising efforts of Canadians for CASA, providing opportunities and support for young women in rural Mexico through health, education and cultural programming.

Her achievements have been recognized through many awards including the Green Toronto Award for Community Projects, the Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteerism in Ontario, and a nomination to the Order of Ontario.

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

July 12, 2011