CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Seconded by: Councillor Pam McConnell

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of William Buss, who died as a result of homelessness.

William died alone, under a staircase on Parliament Street. He was homeless for many years and was a frequent user of the Good Shepherd shelter and the Good Neighbour's Club, an agency serving homeless and low-income men over the age of 55.

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. There is a memorial service held on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:15 outside the south door of Holy Trinity to remember those who have died as a result of homelessness in Toronto.

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

July 11, 2012