

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: **Councillor Janet Davis**

Seconded by: **Councillor Paula Fletcher**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Marion Bryden on February 12, 2013 at 94 years of age.

Marion Herriott was born in Winnipeg and moved to Saskatchewan in 1944 after marrying Kenneth Bryden. Ken worked in Tommy Douglas' new provincial Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) government as the Deputy Minister of Labour. Marion was soon hired by the CCF as well although at the time it was controversial for married women to work in government. The following year, she was one of the first people chosen to join the newly established Economic Advisory and Planning Board along with experts from across North America.

Marion and Ken moved to Toronto in 1949. She worked in budget forecasting and inventory control at Simpsons and volunteered in the unsuccessful union drive to organize Eatons' employees. In 1960 she began work for the Canadian Tax Foundation in research and statistics. At this time she also began to write. Over the years she wrote many books and articles on taxation policies.

Marion went back into politics in 1967 as a researcher for the Ontario NDP caucus. She and Ken both played significant roles in the establishing the groundwork for the newly emerging federal New Democratic Party and she was a member of the party's federal council for six years.

In addition to her career, Marion was president of Ontario Woodsworth Memorial Foundation - Ontario's Fabian Society, member of the Canadian Council of Social Development, active with the Elizabeth Fry Society and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

In 1975 she ran for office and became the Member of Provincial Parliament for Beaches-Woodbine until 1990. During her 15 years in the legislature she served as critic for a wide range of portfolios, including treasury and economics, revenue, environment, women's issues, colleges and universities, correctional services, seniors' issues, transportation and intergovernmental affairs. She was a dedicated parliamentarian and local representative, recognized for her excellent constituency work.

Marion was a modest but determined advocate. She was known by her friends and colleagues as an unstoppable energy, a dogged defender of the vulnerable and a determined fighter for a more equal and fair society. She was inclusive by nature and always looked for ways to convince more people to get involved to make a difference. She was a mentor to many, including Francis Lankin, who became involved in electoral politics at Marion's urging.

Marion Bryden will be dearly missed by friends, family and all who followed after her.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our

sincere sympathy to the friends and family of Marion Bryden.

February 21, 2013