CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Janet Davis

Seconded by: Councillor Pam McConnell

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are shocked and saddened by the tragic collapse of the clothing factory in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh on Wednesday April 24, 2013.

Workers in the eight-storey Rana Plaza factory building sewed clothing for international brands sold in Europe and North America. Though damage to the building was clearly visible, workers were assured the building was safe and pressured to continue their shifts. 3,122 people were employed in the building, mostly women in their teens and twenties. Over 620 staff have been reported dead. Many more were severely injured when the building collapsed around them.

Approximately 13,000 Bangladeshi Canadians live in the City of Toronto. Our thoughts and condolences are with the Bangladeshi community here in Toronto and around the world as together we struggle to comprehend the immense loss of life and livelihood from the clothing factory collapse.

City Council joins our Bangladeshi residents in mourning the fatalities and injuries of innocent workers at the clothing factory. We also share our appreciation for the hundreds of volunteers and professional personnel who worked tirelessly to rescue the trapped workers and all those who strive to improve the safety of working conditions around the world.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the friends, family and all those affected by the tragedy in Bangladesh.

May 7, 2013