CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong

Seconded by: Councillor John Parker

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Robert Goldwin "Bob" Elgie on April 3, 2013.

Dr. Elgie was an Ontario politician, following in the footsteps of his father Goldwin Elgie, who was a Conservative MPP in the 1930's and 1940's. Dr. Elgie was first elected in 1977 as the Member for York East and served in the Provincial Legislature until 1985. During this time, he served as Minister of Labour and Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations under Premier Bill Davis, as well as Minister for Community and Social Services and later Minister of Labour, under Premier Frank Miller. As a member of cabinet, he is most remembered for his activism, and in particular, for the changes he achieved to the Ontario Human Rights Code and Occupational Health and Safety.

Before embracing his political calling, Dr. Elgie was both an Osgoode Hall educated lawyer and a University of Ottawa educated neurosurgeon. He would go on to have a distinguished career as a lawyer, medical doctor and educator. Among the positions he would hold were as professor of medicine at Queen's University and the University of Toronto and the Chief of Medical Staff at Scarborough General Hospital.

Among his civic duties after politics, Dr. Elgie served as Chair of the Ontario Workers' Compensation Board from 1985 until 1991 and following a move to Nova Scotia, as Chair of the Nova Scotia Workers' Board from 1992 until 1996. He also became the founder and first Director of Dalhousie University's Health Law Institute, where he remained from 1991 until 1996. Upon returning to Ontario, Dr. Elgie served as part-time Chair of the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board of Canada from 1995 until 2005 and as reward for his dedication and selflessness, was appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada in 2003. In 2005 he was appointed Chair of the Ontario Greenbelt Council and in 2006, became the 6th Chair of the Ontario Press Council, where he served until his death.

Dr. Elgie is survived by Nancy, his wife of 56 years and his five children, Peter, Stewart, Catherine, Bill and Allyson.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to the family of Dr. Robert Elgie.

May 7, 2013