

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Mayor Rob Ford

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Doug Holyday

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Ms. Irene "Iryna" Wrzesnewskyj on May 27, 2013.

Born the daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Ukrainian Catholic priests, Irene spent several years in Second World War refugee camps before arriving in Montreal in 1948 to work as a nanny. She met her late husband, a fellow refugee named Roman, three years later just as his family was starting a bakery business in Toronto. Over the following year, Irene received more than 400 letters and poems of devotion from Roman and soon after, they married.

Irene and Roman lived with his family in the Queen Street West and Bathurst Street area before moving to the Etobicoke community of Humber Valley Village in 1963. They dedicated their time to building a number of successful businesses and raising two children. Irene instilled the importance of family and giving back to the community into her children and then later, her six grandchildren.

Irene will always be remembered by her loving family and many friends, as well as the members of Plast (the Ukrainian Canadian Scouting Organization) and the League of Ukrainian Catholic Women. She had a deep respect for her roots in Ukraine and a love for her adoptive country of Canada.

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

June 11, 2013