

## 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 Mr. Don Smith on July 16, 2013.

A highly successful businessman, Don was a Canadian construction giant and one of the best in the business whose many iconic buildings dot Toronto's landscape.

Don worked in construction in Toronto and moved to London, where he started the company, EllisDon with his brother David Ellis Smith, in 1951. Their first big project was building Northdale School in north London. EllisDon then evolved into one of Canada's most well-known construction names, changing Toronto's landscape with famous buildings like the SkyDome, now Rogers Centre and considered an engineering marvel with its retractable roof, the Princess of Wales Theatre, College Park, the Metro Hall complex, and numerous other projects across Canada and abroad.

Don was also good at building political parties, becoming chief fundraiser for the Ontario Liberal Party where he served as chief fundraiser for Premier David Peterson's government, bringing the party back to prominence after years in decline.

A caring and warm man, Don gave much of himself personally and financially to health care institutions, charitable organizations and his favourite, the Boys and Girls Club of London. He was a great supporter of the community and a compassionate benefactor who was a major force and incredible entrepreneur. He was passionate about justice and human rights and was proud of his philanthropy and social activities.

His legacy, EllisDon, operates in at least a dozen cities, working on the construction and upgrades of major buildings including hospitals, schools, airports, office buildings, shopping malls and notable projects such as the Art Gallery of Ontario's transformation.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Mr. Don Smith's family.

July 18, 2013