

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Janet Davis

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Cressy

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Yvonne Kristensen on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the age of 64.

Yvonne worked at East End Children's Centre's drop-in program near Coxwell and Danforth Avenues for the past 16 years, as well as for several years during the organization's early history in the late 1980s. She shared her warmth, strength, passion and playfulness with many children, parents, caregivers and co-workers. Her colleagues have expressed that they are truly proud of the way Yvonne worked and played, making their programs - and indeed their lives - incredibly rich, during her time with them. They remember her powerful energy, huge voice, beautiful heart, and joyful laugh.

In addition to her work with East End Children's Centre, Yvonne operated a small store in Kensington Market called Vibe, where she sold essential oils she crafted herself.

Yvonne faced two diagnoses of breast cancer in the past 20 years, most recently in 2006. She decided to make those years great anyway; she had many, many tools in her toolkit for living well, not the least of which were her sense of humour and deep spirituality. Yvonne continued working with East End Children's Centre until the end of July, then took a few weeks of vacation before discerning that returning to work was not an option.

Yvonne will be greatly missed by her daughter, Jade, and her two school-aged granddaughters Narissa and Deja, as well as a great many friends around the globe.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Yvonne Kristensen's family and friends.

December 11, 2014