

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Josh Matlow

Seconded by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Lois Lilienstein - of the beloved children's music trio Sharon, Lois & Bram - on April 22, 2015 at the age of 78.

As part of the Toronto-based group, Lois had delighted children (and their parents) since 1978, introducing many of us to a love of music. Many of us know her best from The Elephant Show, which originally aired on the CBC during the 1980s and has lived on for generations of children in reruns. It is a testament to the timeless appeal of Sharon, Lois, & Bram's music that many of our kids, and those of us who grew up being entertained by them, can recite the "Skinnamarink" verbatim three decades later.

Lois has been recognized for her talents, winning both Juno and Gemini awards during her long career. In 2002 the trio received the Order of Canada, making the Chicago-born Lois one of the few non-Canadians to receive this honour.

Last year, Sharon, Lois and Bram's legacy as longstanding members of our Midtown community, and to children everywhere, was honoured by naming the playground at June Rowlands (Davisville) Park after the trio, along with Toronto's only park sign shaped as an elephant. It was heartening that Lois was able to perform at the concert for the playground naming ceremony and that her family was in attendance to watch her. That concert was a special day for many families in the immediate neighbourhood and from other parts of our City and indeed, from across North America.

Along with Bram and Sharon, Lois helped make so many children's lives magical and musical. Our love and condolences to her family, friends, Sharon, Bram and all who have been touched by her music.

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

May 5, 2015