

Condolence Motion

Moved by: **Councillor Cesar Palacio**

Seconded by: **Mayor John Tory**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are saddened to learn of the passing of Dick Watts at the age of 93 on October 12, 2015.

As the local City Councillor, I was fortunate to work alongside Dick Watts over the years. In many ways he was my inspiration and strength, along with the hundreds of residents of Regal Heights in Ward 17.

Dick Watts was an inspiration to the residents of Regal Heights for more than three decades. His vision and tireless work have made the neighbourhood the vibrant community that it is today.

Everywhere you look you can see his influence: in the friendship and cooperation between residents; in the flowers and shrubs where once there were desolate patches of weeds; in the planter barrels spilling over with seasonal flowers and greenery.

Over the years, he planted trees, removed graffiti, organized community carolling and organized Canada Day processions, annual community clean-up days and art installations. Furthermore, Dick promoted the history and heritage of the area by commemorating Garrison Creek with sidewalk markers, supporting the restoration of the portico at Regal Heights Public School, and hosting annual heritage walking tours.

His constant initiatives on behalf of the local community are extensive, but Dick never called attention to himself.

It is unusual these days to see someone so committed to making a community all that it can be. Dick Watts had become the soul of the Regal Heights that made life better for all of those who had the privilege of knowing him.

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

November 3, 2015