

## **CONDOLENCE MOTION**

**Moved by: Mayor John Tory**

**Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Vince Crisanti**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, Spiritual Guru and head of global BAPS on August 13, 2016 at the age of 95.

During his lifetime, Swami Maharaj touched many lives. His leadership and devotion to humanity brought on a wide spectrum of spiritual and cultural change. He was known for his commitment to aid relief for famines, floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

Along with his commitment to causes, Swami Maharaj's cultural achievements are marked with his creation of over 1,100 Mandirs and the initiation of over 900 sadhus (religious leaders). His commitment to people is an inspiration to everyone as he has made over 17,000 city, town, and village visits in India and abroad, replied to over 760,000 letters and has personally counselled over 810,000 people.

Toronto has had the privilege of having the Swami Maharaj visit our City in his lifetime. Our City also has the privilege of having BAPS Mandirs in Scarborough and North Etobicoke.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our heartfelt sympathies to the community that mourn the loss of this loved and treasured spiritual leader.

October 5, 2016