

## CONDOLENCE MOTION

**Moved by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam**

**Seconded by: Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Rob Stewart in January 2017.

Rob was an award winning wildlife photographer, filmmaker, conservationist and educator. He was born and raised in Toronto, Canada.

As one of the world's top advocates for marine animals, Rob's effective advocacy efforts awakened the public to the cruel and ecologically devastating shark fin trade and so many other pressing issues affecting animals and our environment.

Rob is best known for his 2006 documentary Sharkwater, an inspiring film that examined the impact of global shark hunting. Stewart's film was revolutionary in helping those who were uninformed about life under the ocean feel compelled to take a stand against malicious practices.

Rob was one of the many Canadians calling upon the federal government to ban the shark fin trade. His effective advocacy led seventeen Canadian municipalities to ban the sale of shark fin products and, in 2012, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities passed a near-unanimous resolution calling on the federal government to ban the import of shark fins into Canada.

Rob dedicated his life to inspiring change-making action through his organization, United Conservationists. He inspired us all to reevaluate certain practices and was instrumental in increasing public pressure to protect sharks. Rob's leadership was widely recognized in communities worldwide and his contributions are deeply appreciated.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Rob's many friends and family across the country.

February 15, 2017