

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Jim Karygiannis

Seconded by: Councillor Norman Kelly

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Arnold Chan, Member of Parliament for Scarborough-Agincourt.

Arnold Chan (June 10, 1967 – September 14, 2017) lawyer and politician, was elected to represent the riding of Scarborough-Agincourt in the House of Commons of Canada in the 2014 by-election.

Arnold attended Henry Kelsey Senior Public School, Sir Ernest MacMillan Senior Public School and Dr. Norman Bethune Collegiate Institute. Arnold Chan studied at the University of Toronto, earning an undergraduate and a Master's degree in political science, before obtaining a law degree from the University of British Columbia. When he was 40 years old, he returned back to school again and earned a second Masters' degree in Urban Planning.

Prior to his election, Arnold worked as a senior aide to Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, Chief of Staff to Ontario Cabinet Minister, Michael Chan. Previously, he worked as a lawyer and corporate executive.

Arnold won the Liberal nomination for Scarborough-Agincourt after incumbent Liberal MP Jim Karygiannis resigned to run for Toronto City Council. He was elected to Parliament in a by-election held in that same year.

While in opposition, Arnold served as Liberal critic for the Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario, and critic for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. In November 2014, he became a critic for Tourism and Small Business.

Soon after his election, Arnold was diagnosed with nasopharyngeal cancer. He underwent treatment and quickly returned back to his role as a parliamentarian for Scarborough-Agincourt. Following the October 2015 federal election, Arnold was appointed to be the Deputy House Leader of the Government.

On June 12, 2017, Arnold rose in the House of Commons and urged fellow MPs to rise above partisanship and improve the level of debate in parliament, by saying "the point I want to impart to all of us is that I know we are all honourable members, I know members revere this place, and I would beg us to not only act as honourable members but to treat this institution honourably," adding "I would ask all of us to elevate our debate, to elevate our practice."

Arnold Chan has three sons Nathaniel, Ethan, and Theodore with his wife Jean Yip. Arnold Chan died on September 14, 2017, at the age of 50.

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

October 3, 2017