



CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Cressy

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of George Martell on April 15, 2019.

George was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He studied at Dalhousie, the University of Toronto and the London School of Economics before teaching social sciences at York University from 1968 until his retirement in 2005.

George is best known as a writer, editor and a longtime education activist. George served as an NDP trustee on the old Toronto Board of Education in the late 1970s and then education advisor to the Ontario NDP at Queens Park.

George was the founding editor of two influential magazines for education activists, *This Magazine Is About Schools* (from 1966) and *Our Schools/Our Selves* (from 1988). After his retirement George continued working with Toronto's Somali community on educational issues, editing an online magazine *Education Action*. Before his passing, George put together two books for posthumous publication: a collection of his most important articles, and a study of education in Ontario combined with an assessment of the future for socialist politics and community building.

George spent his life working tirelessly to bring together Ontario teachers, school-board workers, parents, students, and union and community activists into broader education coalitions.

Toronto and Canada have lost one of our leading education advocates and his family has lost a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere condolences to the family of George Martell.

May 14, 2019