

CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Mayor John Tory

Seconded by: Councillor Frances Nunziata

The Mayor and Members of Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Christie Blatchford on February 12, 2020.

Christie Blatchford was one of Canada's most highly respected journalists with a no-nonsense, blunt writing style who began her career in the sports department at The Globe and Mail as Canada's first female sports columnist. Christie worked for all four of Toronto's major newspapers and was an extremely popular broadcast commentator. Her vast and varied experiences as a journalist also included covering municipal politics in the former City of York.

Christie was known for getting to the truth of the matter whether she was covering crime and Canada's justice system or while working as a war correspondent during four trips to Afghanistan. Christie's last column in October 2019 was a humorous response to the Liberals' federal election win.

Christie was an author who published two collections of her humour columns and four books centred on her non-fiction reporting. In 2008, she won the Governor General's literary award for her book *Fifteen Days: Stories of Bravery, Friendship, Life and Death from Inside the New Canadian Army*.

In November 2019, Christie Blatchford was inducted into the Canadian News Hall of Fame.

Christie Blatchford represented the gold standard when it came to journalism. Hard work, integrity, persistence, straight talk and huge sensitivity made hers the first account of any story that people would read.

Christie loved hockey, dogs, running, and people, but most of all, she loved her work which showed in the compassion, excellence, insight, and humour it always reflected.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Christie Blatchford's family and friends.

February 19, 2020