



CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor James Pasternak

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Colle

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Aleksandra Kozhevnikova on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

Aleksandra leaves behind a tremendous legacy: a life lived and defined by selfless generosity, fortitude and perseverance. She faced many challenges throughout her life, and yet to those who knew Aleksandra, it would come as no surprise that she overcame each one of the battles that came her way. Like many others in her generation, Aleksandra dedicated her teenage years in the 1940s working in an assembly plant in her hometown of Izhevsk, producing WWII military rifles and ammunition for the Allied effort to defeat Hitler and the Nazis. She was awarded 8 military medals by the Russian government for her service. Following the war, Aleksandra continued to make invaluable contributions to her community working as an educator of children with special needs for many decades. Later in life, Aleksandra immigrated to Canada to be closer to her son and grandchildren and made a life for herself in Toronto.

Though Aleksandra established herself in a new life in Canada, her perseverance would be tested once more as she was injured in the brazen daytime van attack that injured and killed pedestrians on Yonge Street in April of 2018. Prior to the attack, Aleksandra led a very active and independent lifestyle, however she was forced to reckon with a new reality that would require giving up much of her independence. Despite the physical and emotional anguish Aleksandra faced in the many months following the attack, she remained unjaded and firm in her resolve and her recovery. Her life of persevering in the face of adversity is a testament to her character and legacy, and will continue to serve as a source of inspiration to friends and family and the community at large. Aleksandra will be laid to rest on the second anniversary of the attack.

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

April 30, 2020