



CONDOLENCE MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

Seconded by: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Patricia Beatty on November 20, 2020.

Patricia Beatty, a pioneer of modern dance in Canada whose career as a performer, choreographer and inspirational teacher/mentor spanned seven decades, died of cancer at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Affectionately known as Trish, Beatty is best remembered as co-founder, with David Earle and Peter Randazzo, of Toronto Dance Theatre (TDT) in 1968. At the same time the trio founded a school that has evolved to become one of Canada's leading professional dance conservatories.

One of Canada's most esteemed dance artists, she graduated from Bennington College in 1959 after which she began more intensive study with Martha Graham and José Limón in New York City. When she returned to Canada, her most significant work began by founding the New Dance Group of Canada in 1966, one of the first modern dance companies in Toronto. This group became the foundation for Toronto Dance Theatre. During her 25 years as co-director and resident choreographer, she created 24 original works for the company, including *First Music* (1969) and *Seastill* (1979). Her presence on stage and her dances themselves were always highly regarded when the company toured across Canada and internationally.

Among several honours and awards, Beatty the recipient of a Toronto Arts Award and was named to the Order of Canada in 2004. Her short but wise 1985 book "Form Without Formula: Concise Guide to the Choreographic Process" is now in its sixth printing.

The impact she made in the studio, on the stage, and in the arts community at large will be treasured, and her legacy will continue to reverberate through the work Toronto Dance Theatre and many other Canadian dancers, choreographers, and dance companies.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Trish Beatty's friends and family.

November 25, 2020