Expression of Condolence for Allan Slaight by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Mayor John Tory
Seconded by: Councillor Michael Thompson

The Mayor and Members of Toronto Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Allan Slaight, renowned broadcaster, media mogul, sports enthusiast and remarkable philanthropist who passed on September 19, 2021 at the age of 90.

Allan Slaight will be remembered for his pivotal role as a Canadian broadcaster and his philanthropic contributions to the health and arts sectors across Canada. Allan Slaight built and sold a media empire and helped bring satellite radio and the NBA to Canada. He was instrumental in the building of Toronto’s new arena now known as Scotiabank Arena.

Allan Slaight began his career in broadcasting at the age of 17 in Saskatchewan. Over the years, he worked at CHUM radio and Global Television and went on to set up Slaight Communications, later purchasing Standard Broadcasting. Following that he assumed the position of Executive Chair of the Board of Slaight Communications and he set up the Slaight Family Foundation and La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso.

In the early 1990’s, Allan Slaight was instrumental in helping launch the Toronto Raptors and was one of the original owners. He was also widely recognized for his talents as a magician and authored an authoritative book on that subject.

Beyond these considerable business accomplishments, Allan Slaight was one of Toronto’s most generous philanthropists. He supported a wide range of causes in healthcare, at risk youth, and was a steadfast donor to the United Way. Allan Slaight was also one of the leading donors in Canada to arts and cultural causes.
Allan Slaight has been recognized with many awards and honours including honorary doctorates, being inducted into the Broadcast Hall of Fame, receiving a star on Canada’s Walk of Fame and being appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada. He will be remembered for his legacy as a broadcasting pioneer and patron of Canada’s arts and culture.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Allan Slaight's wife Emmanuelle Gattuso, his children Gary, Greg and Marie and their families, his brother Brian and his wife Annabel, as well as the many friends and colleagues whose lives he touched.

October 1, 2021