

Expression of Condolence for Edward Leman by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Councillor Mike Layton

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Cressy

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Edward Leman on October 12, 2021.

Edward grew up in Toronto, moving to Ottawa in the 1970s, where he attended Carleton University (B.Arch.), married Dilys, and began a family. He became an internationally respected urban planner and one of Canada's top intellectual leaders on Asian economic urban planning.

Edward moved back to Toronto in 2008, and became the highly respected Co-chair of the Planning and Development Committee of the Annex Residents' Association (a position he held for a decade), and he also served as Senior Fellow of the Global Cities Institute at the University of Toronto.

A long-time resident at 50 Prince Arthur, he lived and worked there at different times in his life both as a young man and as an adult. He joined the Annex Residents' Association with the aim to ensure that the Annex remained a vibrant and livable community.

His friends and neighbours say that Edward was both destined and educated to become an architect, eventually shifting his focus to urban planning and international development, establishing his consulting firm, Chreod, in 1985. His company shows an impressive body of international work including work in development policy and risk analysis used across the planet from Chicago to Ho Chi Minh City.

Through his community engagement and activism, Edward worked hard to persuade developers to work with local residents and make adjustments and improvements to their proposals and devised the "Working Group" approach which often found the residents, City staff and developers sitting together and making compromises towards a better plan. An approach which was adopted by numerous other communities.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Edward Leman's family, his wife Dilys and their two daughters.

November 9, 2021