

***Expression of Condolence by Toronto City Council
For Ivan Reitman***

Moved by: Mayor John Tory

Seconded by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of acclaimed Canadian filmmaker and producer Ivan Reitman on February 5, 2022 at the age of 75.

Ivan Reitman began his movie making career while living in Toronto, while he studied music and drama at McMaster University in Hamilton. It's here that Ivan began making movie shorts.

On a shoestring budget, Ivan produced a weekly TV revue, Greed, with Dan Aykroyd, and began working with actors like John Belushi, Gilda Radner and Bill Murray. That work led to the movie Animal House, a massive success that helped him raise money to direct the movie Meatballs. Meatballs would prove to be the beginning of a very fruitful working relationship with actor Bill Murray with whom Ivan also directed the movies Stripes and Ghostbusters.

Ivan also put Arnold Schwarzenegger in his first major comedy, opposite Danny DeVito in the hit movie Twins. In 1990, with Kindergarten Cop, he cemented himself as the most successful comedy director in history.

Although his directing career had slowed down in recent years, Ivan continued producing. In 2021, in an emotional passing of the baton, he produced Ghostbusters: Afterlife while his son Jason directed the movie.

Ivan has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and in 2009, he was named Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions as a director and producer, and for his promotion of the Canadian film and television industry.

Ivan Reitman will be fondly remembered for bringing joy to others. His legacy will live on in his countless movies that continue to bring the gift of laughter to audiences of all ages.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to his wife Genviève, their children Jason, Catherine and Caroline, as well as friends and colleagues and all those whose lives he touched.

February 17, 2022