

***Expression of Condolence for
Clayton "Clay" Ruby by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Mayor John Tory

Seconded by: Councillor Joe Mihevc

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Clayton "Clay" Ruby, one of Canada's top civil rights lawyers, who passed away on August 2, 2022. Clayton died peacefully, surrounded by his friends and family.

Born and raised in Toronto, Clayton Ruby Charles earned his Bachelor of Arts from York University in 1963. Later, he earned his Bachelor of Laws from the University of Toronto in 1969 and in the same year, was called to the Ontario Bar. In 1973, Clayton earned his Master of Laws degree from the University of California Berkeley.

Clayton ran private practices based in Toronto and handled cases that were often at the forefront of constitutional, criminal, administrative, and civil law in Canada. Clayton was a partner with many law firms including Ruby & Edward, Ruby Shiller Chan Hasan, and Ruby Shiller Enenajor DiGiuseppe, where he practiced until his retirement.

In a career spanning half a century, Clayton handled landmark cases including wrongful convictions such as the Donald Marshall Jr. case and the Guy Paul Morin case. Clayton was also a champion for 2SLGBTQ+ rights who fought against discriminatory policies including those within the Canadian military. He served as Counsel at the Supreme Court of Canada in *R. v. Askov*, which established the constitutional right to a speedy trial; in all, Clayton would appear at the Supreme Court of Canada more than 50 times throughout his career.

Clayton was awarded a number of honours including the Order of Canada in 2006 and remains the longest consecutive serving Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada after first being elected to the governing board in 1977.

Clayton is survived by his wife and children. He will be remembered as a tireless advocate for justice no matter the circumstances, whose passion for human and civil rights often saw him representing the underdog.

The City Clerk is asked to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Clayton's wife, Madam Justice Harriet Sachs of the Ontario Superior Court, his daughters, Emma and Ruby, their families, and the many friends, family, colleagues and peers whom he mentored, and whose lives he touched.

August 15, 2022