

***Expression of Condolence for
Sue Johanson by Toronto City Council***

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie

Seconded By: Councillor Jon Burnside

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Sue Johanson, CM – registered nurse, renowned sex educator, television and radio host, author and public speaker– who passed away on June 28, 2023, at the age of 93.

Sue was born in Toronto in 1930 and she attended nursing school in Winnipeg, studying at St. Boniface Hospital. Sue returned to Toronto and established one of the first birth control and sexual health clinics at Don Mills Collegiate Institute high school in 1970. Sue would end up running and coordinating the clinic for nearly two decades and through her work there, discovered her love of teaching. She continued her education, taking post-graduate courses at the University of Toronto and the University of Michigan.

Sue rose to prominence as a sex educator, therapist and counsellor through her popular radio show and later, television programs, *Sunday Night Sex Show* and *Talk Sex with Sue Johanson*. Her lighthearted and humorous but approachable style of presenting resonated with audiences, many of whom would call in to her programs with questions or to seek advice. In addition to authoring a number of books – including *Talk Sex*, *Sex is Perfectly Natural but Not Naturally Perfect*, and *Sex, Sex, and More Sex* – Sue was also a frequent guest lecturer at many high schools, colleges and universities across the country.

In 2001, Sue was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada for her advocacy towards sex education. Sue was a trailblazing educator who broke boundaries and social taboos, helping start an open and honest national conversation about sexuality and sexual health, in a non-judgmental and humorous way.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Sue Johanson's family and to everyone whose lives she touched through her longstanding advocacy.

July 19, 2023