

***Expression of Condolence for
the Honourable James K. Bartleman by Toronto City Council***

Moved By: Mayor Olivia Chow

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of the Honourable James K. Bartleman, OC, OOnt, 27th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, who passed away on August 14, 2023, at the age of 83.

James Karl Bartleman was born in Orillia, Ontario in 1939 and was a member of the Mnjikaning (Chippewas of Rama) First Nation. He was raised in the Muskoka town of Port Carling and was educated at the University of Western Ontario. He began his career in the Foreign Service after joining what is now Global Affairs Canada. Mr. Bartleman held many diplomatic postings including serving as Canada's Ambassador to Cuba, Israel, NATO, and the European Union. He also served as Canada's High Commissioner to Cyprus, South Africa, and Australia, and was a foreign policy advisor to Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

On March 7, 2002, James Bartleman was sworn in as Ontario's 27th Lieutenant Governor, becoming the Province's first Indigenous vice-regal representative. Having faced racial discrimination throughout his life, he was a staunch advocate for Indigenous peoples not only in Ontario, but across Canada. As Lieutenant Governor, he focused on three priorities: eliminating the stigma associated with mental illness, combatting racial discrimination and injustice, and supporting education and literacy among Indigenous youth. During Mr. Bartleman's time at Queen's Park, he helped create several programs including a Lieutenant Governor's book drive for Indigenous schools and a twinning program for Indigenous and non-Indigenous schools in Ontario and Nunavut. He also established summer literacy camps, which have been adopted and now operate in many Indigenous communities across the country. Following his service as Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Bartleman became Chancellor of Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD) University and also enjoyed a successful career as a published author of fiction and non-fiction works.

James Bartleman was the recipient of many awards and honours throughout his life. In 1999, he received a National Aboriginal Achievement Award for public service. Upon his

installation as Lieutenant Governor in 2002, he received the Order of Ontario and was promoted as a Knight of Justice in the Order of St. John. He also received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal that same year. For his work in mental health, he was awarded both the Dr. Hugh Lefave Award in 2003 and the Courage to Come Back Award in 2004. In 2011, he was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada and received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

James Bartleman left an indelible mark on this province and the country. He will long be remembered as a consummate public servant whose contributions to Canadian diplomacy earned him a reputation as a champion of peace and humanitarianism. His legacy will live on through the many programs he created to support Indigenous young people, including an award established in his name, and for his advocacy.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to James Bartleman's wife, Marie-Jeanne; his children, Anne-Pascale, Laurent, and Alain; their families; and all those whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed

September 6, 2023