

***Expression of Condolence for
Washington Brooks by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor Mike Colle

Seconded by: Mayor Olivia Chow

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Washington Brooks.

Throughout his life, Washington never forgot his roots growing up in the City's Little Jamaica neighbourhood where he attended Fairbank Public School, York Memorial Collegiate Institute, and later went on to pursue studies at York University. It was during Washington's time at York Memorial where he emerged as an all-star football quarterback with the school's last championship team. Washington worked for 37 years as an employee with the Canada Revenue Agency and in his spare time, went on to coach several sports teams and many looked up to him as a role model. Through his coaching and participation in sports such as baseball, basketball, ball hockey, and football, Washington brought people of all backgrounds together and devoted his whole life to building strong community bonds through sports and fighting racism and hate. Washington was also a key supporter of the August 16th event to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Christie Pits Riot. In addition to sports, Washington also loved the Toronto Zoo and was a lifelong supporter of it along with his partner, Carla.

Washington will be greatly missed by his partner Carla, son Blaise, daughter Carissa, sister Jacqueline, and mother Hyacinth, along with his many family members, friends, teammates, and colleagues. Washington's life and legacy will be long remembered and continued by the countless people he mentored and helped throughout his life.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Washington's family.

October 11, 2023