

***Expression of Condolence for
Robin Breon by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

Seconded by: Councillor Frances Nunziata

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

Robin was a community volunteer, a union leader and part of Toronto's theatre scene for many years. He was born in State College, Pennsylvania in 1948, then lived in Toronto briefly during the early 1970s before returning permanently in 1981. He worked as an administrator and associate producer at Black Theatre Canada and was active in Arts Against Apartheid.

He started working at the University of Toronto in 1988 and was part of the organizing drive of thousands of administrative employees into the United Steelworkers Local 1998. In 2003 he was elected as fulltime Vice-President of the union, a position he held until his retirement in 2009. As a retiree, Robin continued to volunteer on the Labour Council's Refugee Next Door campaign.

Robin was also a founding member of the Weston Community Coalition, a group formed to engage local residents in GO Transit's development plans for an airport train service.

Robin served for many years on the board of the Toronto Theatre Alliance. His articles and reviews have appeared in a wide variety of publications including Canadian Theatre Review, Theatrum, American Theatre, The Globe and Mail and The Toronto Star, as well as the digital magazine, Aisle Say.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Robin's wife Joan Simalchik, his many friends in the community of Weston and his many colleagues in Toronto's theatre community.

December 13, 2023