

***Expression of Condolence for
Sister Gwen Smith by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

Seconded by: Councillor Paul Ainslie

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Sister Gwen Smith, who died peacefully at 72 years of age, on March 23, 2024, at the Sisters of St. Joseph Residence.

Sister Gwen Smith, of the congregation of St. Joseph, was a force in the South Riverdale Community and leaves behind a legacy of compassion. Her accomplishments provided vital supports to those in need through community establishments that will live on for years to come.

Sister Gwen took on many impactful roles of service throughout her life. As the founding director of Fontbonne Ministries, she ran Mustard Seed, offering an open door and many crucial supports to the most vulnerable. She served her community with her whole heart and relentlessly lived by her values of loving her fellow neighbour.

After retiring, Sister Gwen continued to be deeply involved in her community serving on the Ralph Thornton Community Center board. She strengthened and nurtured a sense of community and persistently worked to offer support for those who were most in need. Through creating community kitchens and gardens, the joy and unity she fostered will continue to live on through these contributions.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Sister Gwen's sisters, friends, colleagues, community, and all those whose lives have been brightened from the love and care she showed them and by whom she will be deeply missed.

April 17, 2024