

## *Expression of Condolence for Sir Andrew Davis 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 Sir Andrew Davis, Commander of the British Empire – a world renowned conductor – who passed away on April 20, 2024, at the age of 80.

Sir Andrew learned to play both the piano and organ and studied at the Royal College of Music in London and King's College in Cambridge.

In 1975, Sir Andrew was appointed the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's sixth musical director. Under his leadership, Toronto Symphony Orchestra went on historic global festival tours to China, The Proms in London, Edinburgh, and Carnegie Hall in New York. Mr. Davis also led a Toronto Symphony Orchestra tour of Canada's north, where they performed in Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

During Sir Andrew's tenure, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra moved from Massey Hall to Roy Thomson Hall in 1982 which remains the orchestra's home today. Sir Andrew led the TSO for over a decade until 1988.

In 1988, Sir Andrew was named Conductor Laureate of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and for the remainder of his career, he would conduct annual performances with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Sir Andrew was a supporter and advocate for young musicians and also worked closely with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Sir Andrew spent a total of 50 years with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and during this time, his talented work was recognized with three Juno Awards, two Grammy nominations and, in 1992, he was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. In 1999, he was Knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

Sir Andrew would go on to other notable orchestral positions throughout his career with the Glyndebourne Opera, the British Broadcasting Company Symphony, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. He leaves behind a legacy as someone who significantly influenced and contributed to arts and culture in Toronto and

around the world.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy, and deepest condolences to Sir Andrew Davis's son, Edward, and all those whose lives he impacted through his work.

June 26, 2024