

## *Expression of Condolence for Gayle Christie by Toronto City Council*

**Moved by: Mayor Olivia Chow**

**Seconded by: Councillor Frances Nunziata**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Gayle Christie – third Mayor of the Borough of York – on August 14, 2024, at the age of 84.

Gayle Christie was born in Garson, Ontario, on August 6, 1940, as one of four children to Muriel and John Wright Ingle. She attended Runnymede Collegiate Institute in Toronto. Over the course of her life, she represented residents in the former Borough of York in many capacities, as a trustee, alderman, and as their mayor.

Ms. Christie was first elected as a Trustee on the Board of Education from 1972 to 1976. She was then elected as an Alderman for Ward 7 in the Borough of York in 1976, where she served for two years. In 1978, she was elected Mayor of York – becoming the borough's third mayor and the first woman to hold the office – where she served for two terms until 1982. She also served on Metro Toronto Council during this time.

As Mayor, she prioritized prudent fiscal planning, in addition to economic growth through job creation and skills training. She was also a champion of community safety and civic engagement, particularly for youth. Throughout her time in office, Ms. Christie also focused on housing, health care, and social services. Following her time as Mayor, Ms. Christie served on the boards of the Canadian National Exhibition and the Liquor Control Board of Ontario. She also served on the boards of several health care institutions including Runnymede Hospital, Humber River Regional Hospital, and Yorktown Women's Shelter.

Gayle Christie will be remembered as a passionate and devoted leader during the decade she spent in public office. She leaves behind a legacy as someone who broke gender barriers during a time of social and political change in Toronto, and as an advocate for all York residents.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy and deepest condolences to Gayle's children, John, Robert, and Rebecca; her grandchildren; the members of her family; to the residents of York, and to all those she impacted throughout her life in this city.

September 5, 2024