Expression of Condolence for John Horgan 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 John Horgan – the 36th Premier of British Columbia – on November 12, 2024 at the age of 65.

Mr. Horgan was first elected as a Member of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly in 2005, serving the riding of Malahat-Juan de Fuca. He was re-elected in 2009, 2013 and 2017.

Mr. Horgan became Leader of the British Columbia New Democratic Party and Leader of the Official Opposition in 2014. He became Premier of British Columbia after forming government in 2017.

Mr. Horgan resigned from his official duties in 2022 due to poor health. In December 2023, he was appointed the Ambassador of Canada to Germany, and served in that role for 6 months before going on leave to be treated for cancer.

Mr. Horgan was known as "Premier Dad" for his warm and positive approach to leadership, his ability to connect with people, and his passion and dedication to public service. Throughout his political career, he was a champion for workers, the economy and clean energy. Under his leadership, provincial legislation that enshrined the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People was passed. He also led the province through the COVID-19 pandemic and navigated the province's response to devastating wildfires and major floods.

Mr. Horgan leaves behind a legacy as a hardworking and dedicated premier who truly cared about the people of British Columbia, and whose style, approach and character resonated with many across the province.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to John Horgan's wife, Ellie; his children, Evan, and Nate; the people of British Columbia, and all those whose lives he touched through his work.