

***Expression of Condolence for Linda McCarthy
by Toronto City Council***

Moved by: Councillor Mike Colle

Seconded by: Councillor Rachel Chernos Lin

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are saddened to learn of the passing of Linda McCarthy, our beloved friend and committed colleague, at the age of 78.

Linda was the beloved mother of Vanessa McCarthy (John Peters Mersereau) and Janette Drew; and cherished grandmother of Morgan (Meghen) Drew and Mitchell Drew. She was born in Leaside to Horace William Brockington and Phyllis Jane Coleman; sister of Bob (Yoli), Bill (Liz), and Mary Anne (John Welsh); much loved aunt; treasured niece and cousin of the 'Buffalo Gawleys'; friend and respected colleague to many.

Linda attended Leaside High School and the University of Waterloo. In the late 1960s, she began her long career in the computer business, designing and implementing mainframe computer systems for Mintex and Colgate Palmolive, among others.

In the late 1970s, she opened her own consulting firm and later co-founded International Software Products (1987-2000). She finished her career as a proud and passionate employee of the City of Toronto, first as consultant to the Committee of Adjustment for the former Ward 16 (2007-2015) and then as Planning, Development, and Committee of Adjustment Assistant for City Councillor Mike Colle, Ward 8 Eglinton-Lawrence (2018-2024).

Linda was a committed feminist and leader and believed that education was the key to independence and equity for girls and women. For many years, she volunteered with the Girl Guides of Canada, serving as the District Commissioner of Leaside for seven years (1983-1990), and was a long-time member of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (1971-2000). She was also passionate about local politics, serving as vice president of the Lytton Park Residents' Organization (2015-2018). Finally, she was an active member of the Malo Tones choir and the Singing to Breathe group.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Linda's family.

November 13, 2024