

Expression of Condolence for Paul Bronfman by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Mayor Olivia Chow

Seconded by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Paul Bronfman, a trailblazer in Toronto's film industry, on February 26, 2025, at the age of 67, from complications due to multiple sclerosis.

Mr. Bronfman will be remembered as a pillar in the Canadian film industry. As founder of Filmport Studios, later Pinewood Toronto Studios, and as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Comweb Corporation and William F. White International Inc., Mr. Bronfman was a true industry-builder. He developed studios and equipment inventory that enabled Toronto to become a global film production hub and was a passionate advocate for the industry and the people within it.

Beyond his involvement with Canada's film and television industries, Mr. Bronfman also contributed to Canada's arts and culture sector by serving on many boards, including the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, the Banff Television Foundation, the Canadian Film Centre, and the Canadian Media Production Association. Through his Comweb Foundation, Mr. Bronfman was also a generous philanthropist, supporting several cultural institutions in Canada including the Toronto International Film Festival, the Atlantic Film Festival, the Banff World Media Festival, the Hot Docs Festival, and the Canadian Film Centre. He leaves behind a legacy as an entrepreneur who helped establish a robust industry for media production in Canada.

In recognition of his work, Mr. Bronfman was inducted into Playback's Canadian Film and Television Hall of Fame as an industry builder in 2010. He also received an Honourable Lifetime Achievement Award from the Director's Guild of Canada.

Mr. Bronfman was also a leader and advocate in the Jewish community. He supported Jewish charities and organizations including the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre for Holocaust Studies, where he also served as a board member for 20 years. Mr. Bronfman's legacy of giving back to the community will live on through the Paul Bronfman Family Foundation.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Paul Bronfman's children, Alexandra, Jonathan, and Andrew, his many grandchildren, his brothers, David and Brian, and all those whose lives he touched.

March 26, 2025