

Expression of Condolence for Ruth Lockhart Abbott by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Councillor Paula Fletcher

Seconded by: Councillor Alejandra Bravo

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Ruth Lockhart Abbott on April 27, 2025.

Ruth was a passionate community advocate whose presence was deeply felt across East York and beyond. In her retirement, she became co-manager of the East York Farmers' Market, a role she held for more than 15 years. Through her leadership and warm spirit, the market grew into a beloved community institution that will continue to enrich residents, uplift local vendors, and foster connections throughout the neighbourhood.

Ruth was not only an organizer, but also an enthusiastic participant. Her homemade jams and pickles, sold under the name Hattie's Preserves, were a staple of the market and a symbol of her creativity, dedication, and personal touch. She brought people together through food, conversation, and her steady commitment to bettering the lives of those around her.

Ruth's giving nature is reflected in her early professional life, which she dedicated to nursing. She provided care and comfort to countless patients during her years at Toronto General Hospital, North York General, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, and Toronto Western Hospital.

Earlier this year, Ruth was recognized for her lifelong contributions with the King Charles III Coronation Medal, an honour that reflected her decades of dedication to her community and fellow citizens.

Ruth Lockhart Abbott will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and the meaningful ways she helped better the lives of those around her.

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

May 21, 2025