Expression of Condolence for The Honourable Marc Garneau by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik

Seconded by: Mayor Olivia Chow

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of The Honourable Marc Garneau, PC, CC, CD, former Member of Parliament, who passed away on June 4, 2025, at the age of 76. Mr. Garneau was also a former member of the Canadian Armed Forces and a Canadian astronaut.

Mr. Garneau was elected as a Member of Parliament representing Westmount-Ville-Marie from 2008 to 2015. He represented Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Westmount (formerly Westmount Ville-Marie) from 2015 to 2023. During his time in office, he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Transport, and as Liberal House Leader. He was well-respected by his colleagues across party lines and will be remembered as a devoted public servant.

Mr. Garneau became the first Canadian in space as part of his mission aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger on October 5, 1984. He was also part of the crew on the Space Shuttle Endeavour in 1996 and 2000. He was a mentor to many other astronauts and an inspiration to Canadians of all ages. Mr. Garneau was appointed President of the Canadian Space Agency from 2001 to 2005.

In his early career, Mr. Garneau spent 10 years as a naval combat systems engineer aboard HMCS Algonquin. He was promoted to the rank of Commander in 1982 and later Navy Captain in 1986.

Mr. Garneau was recognized with many awards and honours. He was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1984 and was later promoted to Companion of the Order of Canada in 2023. He received the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals in 2002 and 2012, in addition to many honorary degrees. Mr. Garneau leaves behind an incredible legacy as the first Canadian astronaut in space and as someone who made a significant impact in three distinct careers: the military, as an astronaut and in politics.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Marc Garneau's family and all those whose lives he touched.

June 25, 2025