

## ***Expression of Condolence for Carole Grafstein by Toronto City Council***

**Moved by: Councillor Brad Bradford**

**Seconded by: Councillor James Pasternak**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Carole Grafstein on July 11, 2025, peacefully at home in Toronto.

Carole was a devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, whose life was marked by generosity, leadership, and dedication to community.

Born on August 15, 1939, at Mount Sinai Hospital to Harry and Molly Sniderman, Carole carried forward a family legacy of service. She attended the first day school at Beth Tzedek, then Forest Hill High School, then Branksome Hall, and then Shaw Business College. As a teenager, Carole trained to swim across Lake Ontario. She married Jerry Grafstein in 1958, beginning a lifelong partnership filled with love, travel, and philanthropy.

A passionate volunteer and leader, Carole served as Chair of the Canadian Opera Company and the Mount Sinai Annual Ball. She dedicated herself to cancer fundraising, organizing the Canadian Cancer Society nationally, and leading the first Run for the Cure and Walk for the Cure. She served on several hospital boards including Mount Sinai, Princess Margaret, Sunnybrook, Toronto Rehab, Bridgepoint, and University Health Network. For her extraordinary contributions, she was awarded the Order of Canada in 2001.

Carole travelled widely with her husband Jerry across Canada, the United States, Europe, and the Middle East, especially to Israel and Jordan. She offered unwavering support to women battling cancer and courageously fought her own seven-year battle with the disease while remaining at home.

Carole was an avid Maple Leafs fan, and Saturday nights were sacred for hockey games. She was deeply loved by her family: her husband Jerry, their sons Laurence and Michael, daughter-in-law Rebecca, grandsons Daniel, Edward, and Isaac, Edward's fiancée Mary, and numerous Sniderman, Back, and Grafstein cousins.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Carole Grafstein's family, friends, and all who were touched by her kindness and leadership.

July 23, 2025