

## ***Expression of Condolence for Susan Eng by Toronto City Council***

**Moved by: Mayor Olivia Chow**

**Seconded by: Councillor Shelley Carroll**

The Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Susan Eng, former Chair of the Toronto Police Services Board, who passed away on July 26, 2025, at the age of 72.

Susan Eng was a trail-blazing civic leader, a tireless advocate for human rights and a lawyer who was among the first group of Asian Canadians to make partner at a major law firm. She was appointed to the Toronto Police Services Board, formerly known as Metropolitan Toronto Police Services Board by the Province of Ontario in 1989, becoming the first Chinese Canadian and only Chinese Canadian woman to receive such an appointment. She later served as Chair of the Toronto Police Services Board from 1991 to 1995, where she pushed for greater police accountability and transparency in all aspects of police operation.

In 2019, Ms. Eng co-founded the Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice. She was an instrumental part of the campaign seeking redress for the Chinese Head Tax and Exclusion Act, *Chinese Immigration Act, 1923*, which had impacted her father. After a class action lawsuit by head taxpayers and their families was dismissed, she revitalized the campaign by co-founding and co-chairing the Ontario Coalition of Head Taxpayers and Families that highlighted the plight of the impacted families. Her dedicated efforts led to Prime Minister Stephen Harper's formal apology to Chinese Canadians for the head tax in 2006.

Ms. Eng also championed the rights of older adults and seniors. She served as Vice President of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons and amplified the voices of seniors when she supported Doctor Joseph Wong in establishing the Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care. She also stood up for the rights of LGBTQ and racialized communities.

Ms. Eng served on the boards for the University of Toronto, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Urban Alliance on Race Relations and the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Toronto. She will be remembered for her lifelong commitment to

advocacy, her many contributions to social justice and for helping advance equality for residents in our city and country.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Susan Eng's family and all those whose lives she touched through her work.

October 8, 2025