Expression of Condolence for Dick O'Brien 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 Richard "Dick" O'Brien, former Toronto City Councillor, who passed away on July 26, 2025.

Dick O'Brien was first elected Alderman for the Borough of Etobicoke in 1973, serving until 1980, when he was elected to the Board of Control for the Borough and then City of Etobicoke. In 1988, he was elected Councillor for the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, representing Markland Centennial until amalgamation in 1997. Following amalgamation, he was elected to Toronto City Council, where he served from 1998 to 2000.

During his time on Toronto City Council, Dick served on many boards and committees including as Chair of the Corporate Services Committee, member of the Environment and Public Space Committee, and the Planning and Transportation Committee. He also served on the Toronto Region Conservation Authority from 1984 and was elected Chair in 1996. He was also the mayor's representative for the City of Toronto Y2K steering committee.

Outside of public life, Dick was a dedicated scout leader and Big Brother. He will be remembered for his deep commitment to serving the residents of Etobicoke for over 27 years.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to Dick O'Brien's wife, Gale; his children, Ryan and Aaron; his siblings, Peggy, Ardagh, Katherine, Susan, and Michael; their families, and all those whose lives he touched.