

## Gaye Hachie



On July 22, 2011, Gaye Hachie an original member of forWard 9 Co-op in east end Toronto, passed away at the age of 62. Gaye and her husband Bob lived in the co-op for 38 years. It was where they raised their two sons, Aaron and Patrick. Gaye served many terms on the co-op board. She also served as president on several occasions.

forWard 9 was founded to keep affordable non profit housing in the Beaches neighbourhood of Toronto. The co-op was able to acquire houses and two apartment buildings in the 1970's. Gaye was one of the leaders in the co-op who developed a plan to upgrade the buildings and secure additional mortgage financing from Canada Mortgage.

In the 1990's, Gaye went to work for Toronto Women's Co-op. At one time, the co-op needed re-financing to repair some building problems. Gaye was again able to get secondary financing from Canada Mortgage. By doing this she was able to include the protection of the low income members of the co-op. Gaye also volunteered with sector groups such as Alliance for Affordable Co-operative Housing who worked to keep co-op housing affordable for low income members.

Gaye continued working at Toronto Women's Co-op until her sudden passing.

Gaye inspired a new award at CHFT. She wanted a long time, for Ward 9 member to be honoured. This member was 99 years old and had lived in the co-op for 31 years. We came up with the idea of the Century of Co-operation award. Last year, Gaye received a Century of Co-operation award on behalf of her husband who was unable to attend the ceremony.

This year Gaye would have qualified for her own Century of Co-operation award. Gaye has truly left her impact on forWard 9 Co-op, Toronto Women's Co-op, and the wider co-op housing sector. Anyone who knew Gaye enjoyed her wonderful sense of humour.

Her hard work and dedication to co-op members represents the true spirit of housing co-ops in this city. CHFT would like to express our sympathies to her family and friends. A memorial is being planned later this month.

- *Tom Clement, Executive Director of CHFT*