



Rabbi Lawrence Englander of Solel Congregation in Erin Mills has been made a member of the Order of Canada. The tireless community activist says the award reflects his congregation's belief that they have a social responsibility to the community.

Named to the Order of Canada

Rabbi Englander a reluctant hero

MN Feb. 7-8, 2004

By JOHN STEWART
Staff

Anyone who knows Rabbi Larry Englander won't be surprised to learn he is genuinely reluctant to accept his well-deserved place in the Order of Canada.

"I'm accepting it as a front man for some extraordinary people in Mississauga, the people who established Foodpath and Pathways," said Englander, the

Englander's reticence to take personal credit doesn't surprise Mississauga West MP Steve Mahoney.

"Larry is just highly deserving and wonderful," said Mahoney. "He always let's other people take the limelight while he just gets the job done. We need a lot more Larry Englanders."

It was Englander's initiative, after a 1985 Peel Social Planning Council report highlighting the

clients showed that many were working families who couldn't afford the high rents they were paying, the Pathway Development Corporation was formed.

In partnership with governments, two other local churches and Peel Living, Pathway sponsored the Forrest Ridge apartment building at Ridgeway Dr. and The Collegeway.

Since then, Arbour Mills in Cooksville has been added to the

Englander himself gives credit for his successes to the congregation, a group he said is, "everything I ever dreamt of."

He was planning to get his doctorate and teach when his experience as a student rabbi at Solel changed his life.

"They were very hungry to learn and to do," he said, "and to do for themselves. They really wanted to participate and that's the ethos we have built here."