

History buff among Civic Award winners

By JOSEPH CHIN
Staff

When Marian Gibson moved to Port Credit 27 years ago, all she knew of the place was that it was situated "just west of Toronto."

On June 12, Gibson will become a bona-fide authority on the city when her book, *In the Footsteps of the Mississaugas*, rolls off the presses.

Gibson has been a member of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation (MHF) for two decades, including five terms as president. She also volunteered with numerous community groups, including Mississauga Hospital Auxiliary, Victoria Women's Association and Mississauga South Historical Society.

For her contributions, Gibson received a 2006 Civic Award of Recognition from the City of Mississauga in a ceremony held last night.

"I'm amazed to be receiving this award, especially for something I enjoy doing so much," said the 69-year-old former school teacher.

A history buff, Gibson said her interest in Mississauga's past was piqued when she

discovered many of her neighbourhood streets bore names of native Indian tribes.

"I started doing research and meeting with historians. That gave me a real sense of the heritage of the community and the need to preserve as much as possible for future generations," she said.

Recently, she assisted in editing *Mississauga: The First 10,000 Years*, a landmark book published by MHF.

"Marian is a humanist with a contagious sense of duty and responsibility," said MHF executive director Jayme Gaspar.

The Civic Award of Recognition honours people who have spent 10 years or more volunteering, or someone whose ability in arts, sports or academics has been recognized at a national or international level.

Others recognized this year include Kristine Beavis, Mary Borsato, Helene Burrowes, Ronald Cunningham, Shirley Mak, John Morgan, Julia Morton-Marr, Beverley A. Ryan, Edison M. Vibat and Bart Wassmansdorf.

For outstanding athletics, winners were John Tavares (lacrosse) and Christine Trieu and Jeffrey Trieu (taekwondo).