

## Municipal 'pioneer' gets OMB post

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Peel Region Biog.

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The man who "virtually pioneered the town manager system in Ontario," according to Mayor Ron Searle, has been appointed to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Dean Henderson, who served with the former township of Toronto and later Mississauga from 1952 to 1973, was appointed this week.

"I can't think of a better appointment," Searle said. "Dean is one of the definitive experts on municipal administration in Canada."

Henderson, a chartered accountant, was hired as treasurer of the township on Feb. 1, 1952 when the population was slightly less than 25,000 people.

He subsequently served as town manager, as well as treasurer, until the early 1970s when the council, led by former mayor Robert Speck, decided the dual role was too heavy a burden for one person.

Henderson retired from the municipality in late 1973 after suffering a heart attack. During his tenure as chief administrative officer, Henderson was the

president of the Ontario Municipal Administrators' Association and served on the International City Management Association.

He served on several committees advising the province's ministry of municipal affairs including the Blair commission on tax reform, whose report he helped write.

After leaving the municipal field, Henderson joined a firm of

chartered accountants in Clarkson, later going out on his own.

"Dean was one of the prime negotiations for the original South Peel Water Scheme and was instrumental in developing the concept of market value assessment," recalls the mayor.

The appointment of Henderson, who is married with two children and lives in Applewood, was effective last Friday.