

Merritt Henderson

An outstanding achiever named lifetime member

By SUE BOCK

Merritt Henderson, president of Mississauga Hospital, has been chosen this year's Mississauga City Board of Trade's Honorary Life Member for his service to the community.

Lois Gibson, general manager of the board, said Henderson was chosen for his "outstanding work" in this city through business and the hospital.

"He holds one of the most responsible positions in health care in the province and has spent a significant amount of time for the benefit of the community," she said.

Henderson has been actively involved in St. John Ambulance, the Victorian Order of Nurses and serves on the advisory committee at Sheridan College's Credit Valley Nursing School.

He is also president of the Ontario Hospital Association, on the board of the Canadian Hospital Association, is a trustee of Christ Church in Clarkson and is on the board of Hospital Purchasing Inc.

Henderson came to Mississauga Hospital in 1958, after a stint in a chartered accountant firm.

At that time, the facility had 115 beds and "was more like a small community hospital", he said.

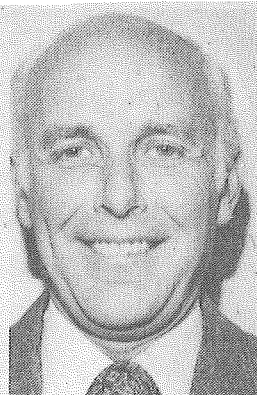
The president has had a hand in the three major expansions of the building. The first took place from 1961 to 1964, adding 280 more beds; the next was in 1968, adding 100 more and now the 133-bed expansion currently under way.

Henderson said the latest addition will be completed in late 1982 and will have cost \$36.5 million.

Mississauga Hospital has always had a good reputation in the medical community because of the physicians and hospital staff, he said.

Henderson said he was "surprised" and felt it was a "great privilege" to have been chosen the board's honorary life member this year.

"I consider it to be quite an honor to have the recognition and especially to follow someone like the late Gordon Shipp."



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