

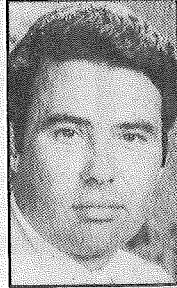
CIRCULATION

Popular Peel cop leaving the force to be King of Soo

Feb 11-87 NW

By ED PICCININ
Staff Reporter

Peel Blog Bk



BARRY KING

Barry King has left his mark on this town. But the high-profile Peel Regional Police superintendent, known for his community involvement, will be leaving Mississauga soon. He has been named police chief of the 125-member Sault Ste. Marie force and will take over for Chief Robert McEwen when he retires March 16.

Supt. King, who has 7 years to go until he retires, said he took a look at his career options and found in Sault Ste. Marie "an excellent force, similar to Mississauga's when I started here" in 1969 with what was then the City of Mississauga police force.

"I love Mississauga, there's no doubt about that," he said in an interview Monday. "But I hit a crossroads and had to make a determination."

Supt. King, who has long been touted as a contender for Peel's top job, likened his situation to that of a racehorse in the run for the roses: "You either put him in the race or you don't," he said.

His most recent assignment was directing field support services with the local 1,000-member force, but Supt. King has held a variety of positions during his 25-year career.

He held a seat on the planning committee that formed Peel Re-

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King, Barry

Community-minded policeman chosen chief at Sault Ste. Marie

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gional Police in 1974, investigated the Christine Demeter murder case the same year and later the Frank Volpe and Nizam Ali murders. He was also executive officer to Chief Doug Burrows and headed local operations for the Pope's visit to Canada in 1984.

Supt. King has seen the local force grow to become one of the largest in the province, but he said, "You're continually managing changes, managing growth, and you have less time to do the policing you'd like to do."

He said he is eager to get back to a smaller community force like

that of Sault Ste. Marie where "you can see the direct effects of your programs."

With only 7 years to retirement, and at a higher pay scale, Supt. King said the Sault's offer was "almost something I couldn't turn down."

Deputy Chief William Teggart called him "an excellent officer" and said Supt. King's advancement is a good reflection on the training of the local force.

"He is a competent, well-liked officer who has represented Peel well."