

CITY HALL

City to name park after Mississauga News legend Ron Lenyk

Springfield Park will be renamed Ron Lenyk Springfield Park

RACHAEL WILLIAMS

RachaelWilliams@metroland.com

MN June 22, 2017

City councillors approved the renaming of Springfield Park, located at The Credit Woodlands, to Ron Lenyk Springfield Park.

Former publisher of the Mississauga News and the Brampton Guardian, Lenyk was a longtime resident and community leader in Mississauga. Named citizen of the year in 2001, Lenyk was involved in just about every organization in the city.

"If Hazel McCallion was the Miss in Mississauga, he was the Mr.," wrote former Mississauga News managing editor Rick Drennan after Lenyk's passing in 2015.

Lenyk began his career in 1970 when he was hired as a sports reporter for the Mississauga News. He rose quickly through the ranks, becoming south Peel regional publisher, a position he held for 31 years, and vice president of Metroland Media Group.

In 2009, Lenyk was promoted to vice president, newspaper strategic support, at Torstar, parent company of the Mississauga News. Despite his new digs at 1 Yonge St., Lenyk remained one of Mississauga's most influential business leaders, community advocates and committed volunteers.

Earning a reputation as the "King of Volunteers," Lenyk was a founding member of the Board



Stephen Uhraney

Mississauga's Springfield Park is being renamed "Ron Lenyk Springfield Park".

of Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga Board of Trade and Mississauga Community Foundation. The father of two was also well-respected for his work at United Way of Peel Region, Interim Place, Peel Partner for a Drug-Free Community, Peel Lung Association, Fair Share for Peel, Mississauga Deaf Ice Hockey League, Mayors Gala and Mississauga Hospital.

In 2011, Lenyk became CEO of the Living Arts Centre. Four years later, he was inducted into Mississauga's Legends Row and the Sports Council Hall of Fame.

He passed away in September 2015 at age 68 from complications related to a heart attack. He was survived by his wife of 45 years, Olga, daughter Trina and her

husband, Jason Christie, their daughter, Madison, and son Terry and his wife, Taylor Williamson.

"He was a larger-than-life individual. Ron wasn't a very tall individual, but he was a giant among men. He squeezed every ounce out of life, living it to the fullest," said Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie during her address at a memorial service held in his honour. "There are few who can equal his commitments to this city, his passion for his job, or the amount he has given back to Mississauga over the years."

A small ceremony for plaque unveiling at Springfield Park, 3325 The Credit Woodlands, will be planned for the fall of 2017. - with files from Louie Rosella