McKeCHNIE, Frank July 24th, 1994 MN

McKechnie on the mend after surgery

Veteran Councillor Frank McKechnie is ready to hit the campaign trail after successful surgery on his leg.

McKechnie, 63, came home from a Toronto hospital Thursday follow-

ing elective surgery to improve the circulation in his left thigh.

Doctors inserted a six to eight-inch long piece of plastic vein at that point to eliminate a blockage.



McKECHNIE

"Everything is A one," McKechnie told *The News* Friday afternoon from his home where he's recovering. "The doctor said the other veins around it look healthy so I should be in shape for running around to the doors this fall."

The ward 5 councillor, often referred to as the mayor of Malton, is the longest-serving municipal politician still in office in Ontario. He was first elected Dec. 6, 1958 and will celebrate 36 years in office later this year if he is re-elected Nov. 14.

Several years ago McKechnie had heart bypass surgery but he quickly bounced back to a full schedule of meetings, representing ward 5 at city hall and on Peel regional council.

The councillor expects to be back on the job next week.