Retiring Deputy Reeve honored by town staff

MISSISSAUGA — The dean of Mississauga council, Roy McMillan, was cited as the "perfect example of how a politician can get co-operation from town staff" by Dean Henderson, town manager, at last Monday's council meeting — the last meeting of McMillan's 17-year history in office.

McMillan, 74, retires this year as deputy reeve. He was eulogized by Henderson and his fellow councillors.



ROY McMILLAN

"You never had an enemy," said Henderson. "When you wanted things done you did it by friendly persuasion and by being nice. Others could have taken a leaf from your book."

Mayor Bob Speck said McMillan was "a great politician and always a "gentleman". He noted that only McMillan had served on council longer (by two years) than himself.

END OF AN ERA

"I am sorry that an era has to come to an end. I wish you all happiness and health in years to come."

Other councillors echoed the mayor's sentiments and incoming deputy reeve Grant Clarkson admitted he had been a protege of McMillan's and said he hoped he could adequately fill the role.

"I've been around this table for 17 years and had the privilege of meeting many, many people," said McMillan. "I've made friends I would never have known."

"I've made a list of all the people I have seen come and go since I was first elected. There have been 28 who have either retired or were defeated at the polls."

He said he had enjoyed working with the mayor and congratulated him on leading the town to its present position of prosperity.

He also complimented the press: "During all my years they never tried to cause me any embarrassment."

"I am leaving not because I wanted to, but because you have to accept reality."

"I would like you all to note, however, that there will be no charge for advice or consultation from a fellow who has been through the mill. My door will always be open."