

Person of the Year *Parsons, Lou*
Peel Bio Bk

**GO chairman Parsons
honored by his peers**

Mississauga's Lou Parsons is Ontario's Transportation Person of the Year.

The chairman of GO Transit since 1980 is being honored by the Ontario committee for National Transportation Week, which is coming up next month. The award annually recognizes a person whose leadership throughout his career has improved and advanced the transportation industry.

Parsons first became a member of the GO Transit Board in 1974, when it was founded, through his role as the Region of Peel's first chairman. The board consists of regional chairmen from around Metro Toronto with a chairman appointed by Ontario. When Parsons stepped down as Peel's chair in 1979, he was appointed by the then-Conservative government in 1980 as chairman. He has held the job through both Liberal and now NDP regimes at Queen's Park.

In a press release GO Transit said that with Parsons at the helm, GO "has grown from a fledgling inter-regional transit service to an internationally-recognized state-of-the-art integrated system which has received a number of awards."

Parsons was the first-ever Canadian to head the American Public Transit Association when he was elected in 1991. The long-time Mississauga realtor, who also heads the Credit Valley Conservation Authority Foundation, said "I am deeply honored to have been recog-



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nized for such an award and I pay tribute to the many people at GO who have done so much to make this possible."

