



JOHN P. MACBETH

1921 – 1991

Born in Toronto, John Palmer MacBeth graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School and worked for his father's law firm, MacBeth and Johnson. He also served in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War. However, MacBeth was best known for his extensive years in the public service, education, and local and provincial politics.

MacBeth began his distinguished record of public service as a member of the Etobicoke Board of Education from 1952 to 1958. He served as Chairman of the Board of Education in 1955. He entered local politics becoming Reeve of the Township of Etobicoke from 1963 to 1966. Provincial politics followed when MacBeth was elected as a Member of the Legislature in Ontario from 1971 to 1981; his notable positions included Minister of Labour in 1974 and 1975, and Solicitor General from 1975 to 1978.

MacBeth felt that one of his greatest accomplishments during his time as MPP was the introduction of mandatory store closings during civic holidays, which he piloted through the House during 1976 and 1977.

After his retirement, MacBeth served as Vice-Chairman of the Ontario Police Commission from 1981 to 1987. Under his guidance, the commission recommended tougher controls of police chases in 1985.

MacBeth also contributed his considerable experience and energy to a variety of organizations including the Etobicoke Red Cross, the Kiwanis Club, and served on the Boards of the Etobicoke General Hospital, the Canadian National Exhibition, and the Empire Club.

At the time of his sudden death in March 1991, Etobicoke Council passed a special motion to convey its sympathy to the widow and family of MacBeth.

Inducted into the Etobicoke Hall of Fame in 1992