



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mapleton Honours Ron Ellis as 2025 Ontario Senior of the Year

The Township of Mapleton is proud to announce that longtime resident and dedicated community leader **Ron Ellis** has been named **Ontario Senior of the Year for 2025**. The prestigious provincial award recognizes individuals aged 65 and older who have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, or civic life of their communities.

A lifelong resident of Mapleton, Ron Ellis has spent decades shaping the community through his tireless volunteer work, civic engagement, and leadership. His contributions span nearly every facet of community life — from healthcare and infrastructure to arts and heritage.

Ron's service began early as a committed member of the **Drayton Kinsmen**, where he served for 19 years, was elected President in 1979, and was twice named Kinsmen of the Year (1974–75 and 1976–77). He went on to serve **15 years on Drayton Council** (1982–1997), playing key roles in critical infrastructure projects, including water and wastewater development projects. He was instrumental in the **amalgamation of Drayton, Peel, and Maryborough**, forming the Township of Mapleton 26 years ago.

His leadership extended to co-chairing the **PMD Arena Expansion Fundraising Committee** in 1999, underscoring his dedication to community development.

Ron has also had a profound impact on local healthcare. He served on the **Palmerston Hospital Foundation Gala Committee for 24 years**, helping raise essential funds, and is currently involved in the **Palmerston Hospital MRI Campaign Committee**, working to expand diagnostic services in the region.

As a founding member of the **Drayton Festival Theatre Committee**, Ron helped establish one of the region's most cherished cultural landmarks. His 20 years of volunteer service with the theatre earned him the **Province of Ontario Volunteer Service Award**.

Most recently, Ron was an active member of the **Drayton 150 Committee**, celebrating the community's heritage and future.

His dedication has not gone unnoticed beyond Mapleton. Ron received **Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee Award** in 2022 and was honoured with the **King Charles III Coronation Medal** in 2024 — both federal recognitions for his extraordinary service to community and country.

Ron was officially presented with the Ontario Senior of the Year Award by **MPP Matt Rae** and **Mayor Gregg Davidson** during the opening ceremonies of the Drayton 150 celebration.

“It was a great honour to present Ron Ellis with Mapleton’s 2025 Ontario Senior of the Year Award,” said Mayor Gregg Davidson. “Ron’s contributions over the years have made a real difference in Mapleton, and we’re proud to see him recognized as Ontario’s Senior of the Year for 2025.”

The Township of Mapleton extends heartfelt congratulations and deep gratitude to Ron Ellis — a remarkable individual whose legacy of service continues to inspire.

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