

Biography

Robert S. MacIsaac

As the first Chair of the Greater Toronto Transportation Authority (GTTA), Rob MacIsaac is responsible for leading a Board of Directors to plan, prioritize and integrate transportation systems across the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton.

During his term as Mayor of the City of Burlington, Mr. MacIsaac became well-known for his regional approach and progressive growth management ideas for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

As a member of the Ontario Smart Growth Panel, he led the effort to develop a vision and recommendations for a Smart Growth Strategy for Central Ontario. These elements remain fundamental tenets in the Province's Places to Grow Plan.

Subsequent to this work, Mr. MacIsaac chaired a provincial task force that established the founding principles for a permanent Greenbelt for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The Greenbelt Plan preserves more than 1.8 million acres of forest, natural lands and farmlands in one of the most populous regions in the country. In May 2004, he accepted the Canadian Urban Institute's Urban Leadership Award on behalf of the Task Force.

Mr. MacIsaac hosted the first ever GTA Smart Growth Summit that brought together community leaders from across the GTA to begin thinking about new ways to manage growth. He founded a Transit Caucus inviting the mayors of four other GTA municipalities to create a more coordinated and integrated approach in service, fare collection and financing of local transit systems. He also chaired a GTA Transit Summit that brought together leaders from all three levels of government.

Committed to the economic development of the GTA, Mr. MacIsaac has led several trade missions on behalf of the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance (GTMA). In May 2002, he received a GTA Leadership Award from the GTMA.

First elected to Burlington municipal council in November 1991, Mr. MacIsaac served two terms representing Ward 1 at city and regional councils. In 1997, he was elected Mayor of Burlington and acclaimed for two more terms. In March 2006, he did not seek re-election. During his time as Mayor, he was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship for his work in establishing a hospice in Burlington, and an Honourary Doctorate for his outstanding community service from Australia's Charles Sturt University.

Mr. MacIsaac completed his undergraduate degree in Economics at the University of Waterloo in 1984 and received a Law degree at the University of Western Ontario in 1987. He was called to the Bar in 1989. Born in 1962, Rob is a lifetime resident of Burlington.