



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

*The Power of Knowledge and Leadership*

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## *Media Release*

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### **MAYOR HAZEL MCCALLION RECEIVES SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DESIGNATION**

#### ***Mayor of Mississauga, Ontario Long Viewed as a Champion of Economic Development***

**WASHINGTON, DC (October 27, 2014)** Mayor Hazel McCallion of Mississauga, Ontario became an honorary [Certified Economic Developer](#) (CEcD) at the [International Economic Development Council's](#) (IEDC) Annual Conference, October 19-22 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Mayor McCallion was a major presence at the conference, speaking at a luncheon for elected officials on Monday, and receiving her CEcD status at a formal dinner Tuesday night. The honorary designation was presented by IEDC board member Neil Everson, EcD, CEcD, who is the Director of Economic Development and Real Estate at the City of Hamilton, Ontario.

"I know you're not supposed to disclose a lady's age, but at 93 years old on October 27, it will be the first time in 36 years her name hasn't appeared on a municipal ballot." Mr. Everson said, regarding the Mayor's stepping down this November, during his presentation. "IEDC would like to present a small token of our appreciation for your contribution to economic development. We hope that you'll wear your CEcD pin with pride. It's one-of-a-kind, just like you Madam Mayor!" Along with the pin, Mayor McCallion was presented with a jacket that reads "Economic Development Mayor" on the back.

The [CEcD designation](#) recognizes qualified and dedicated practitioners in the economic development field and sets the standard of excellence within the profession. Candidates must pass a rigorous and comprehensive examination, which tests a practitioner's knowledge, proficiency and judgment in the key areas of the profession, including business retention and expansion, marketing, finance, workforce development, community development, real estate, strategic planning, and management. Certified Economic Developers work with public officials, business leaders, and community members to create leadership to build upon and maximize the economic development sector.

Mayor Hazel McCallion, long viewed as a champion of local economic development, attended the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding between IEDC and the Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO) last year during the 2013 IEDC Annual Conference. Mayor McCallion was an integral part of bringing the internationally recognized "Certified Economic Developer" designation to

Canada. The MOU commits both parties to developing and delivering training programs for Canadian economic development professionals wishing to become IEDC Certified Economic Developers (CEcDs).

Under her leadership, Mississauga has grown from a collection of sleepy suburban communities to a city of over 670,000. Mayor McCallion's achievements, awards, and accolades in her career are numerous, including:

- Member of the ORDER OF CANADA
- American Woman of the Year (for North America)
- Order of the Rising Sun – bestowed by the Emperor of Japan
- Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
- She was commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel by the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Mayor McCallion first received the IEDC Public Service Award in 2003 and has been Mayor of the city of Mississauga, Ontario for the past 36 years, winning 12 straight elections. Like any "Big City" Mayor, she had a number of priorities but it was always Economic Development that consistently benefited from her support and advocacy.

Mayor McCallion and the success of the city of Mississauga, Ontario have become synonymous with each other. As its Mayor for over three decades, Mayor McCallion has guided the city with exemplary leadership. It is because of Mayor McCallion's vision and dedication to the economic development community, that the International Economic Development Council is pleased to present her with an Honorary Certified Economic Developer designation.

#### **About the International Economic Development Council**

The [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedconline.org) (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,400 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org).

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