

**December 2, 2009**  
**For Immediate Release**

## **Rally on December 2 for Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion**

**MISSISSAUGA** – On December 2, 2009, a rally will be held in support of Mayor Hazel McCallion at the Mississauga Convention Centre from 7:30-8:30pm. All Mississauga residents who support the Mayor are encouraged to spare an hour of their time to show their support for our Mayor. The rally was spurred by the announcement of a judicial inquiry into allegations against the Mayor – allegations that were put to rest in a recently released independent legal opinion.

After an extensive investigation, the law firm McLean and Kerr, contracted by the City, found that Mayor McCallion was not in the wrong and was fully compliant with all Ontario statutes governing municipal political behavior.

“As concerned citizens, we cannot stand idly by and watch our Mayor be attacked by self-serving councillors. Our mayor has given so much to this great City, the least we can do is show her that she still has a tremendous amount of support in the community,” said Dianne Morgan, one of the organizers of the rally.

“This marks a low point in our City’s history,” said Betty Merkley, concerned citizen and organizer of the December 2<sup>nd</sup> rally. “What’s happening at City Hall represents the worst aspect of politics. The Mayor has been cleared by an independent legal opinion, so we as concerned residents are left to wonder why a judicial inquiry is needed at all,” she said.

The legal opinion has already cost taxpayers \$46,000, which is far less than the judicial inquiry that could cost over of \$2.5 million. Understandably, this has left Mississauga residents frustrated and confused.

“We will not stand for these baseless attacks on our Mayor’s impeccable reputation by those who wish to take her job, not to mention wasting taxpayers’ money on a fruitless judicial inquiry,” said Patrick Mendes, one of the organizers of this rally. “Although we cannot stop this inquiry, we can certainly draw attention to the fact that it will cost residents over \$2.5 million,” he said.

“Hazel McCallion has been a public servant for over 40 years, and has served as Mayor of Mississauga for over 30 years. Through her hard work and dedication, Mississauga has become a world class city, attracting the headquarters of Fortune 500 companies and provided residents with unparalleled public services. She has given so much of herself for Mississauga, the least we can do is give her our full support in her time of need,” said Dianne Morgan.

The Friends of Hazel is a grassroots movement comprised of concerned residents of Mississauga. To learn more about our efforts, please visit [www.friendsofhazel.com](http://www.friendsofhazel.com)

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