

A tribute to Margaret Britnell

It was with great sadness that I heard that Margaret Britnell had passed away on Sunday, Oct. 12.

Beautiful green King Township has lost its greatest champion and protector. Margaret served as mayor for 13 years and as a councillor for 9 years, during the period from 1970 to 1997. She was also King Township's representative at the Region of York for 6 years.

She was a gutsy and could be a feisty lady, honest to the core and called a spade a spade, and sometimes a "blinking shovel," As mayor she always brought forward a balanced and transparent budget with no per capital debt. She understood exactly what the phrase means "growth does not pay for growth," and also knew what it took to control growth. She listened to the citizens of the Township and did her utmost to control development so that King could maintain its rural heritage and we could enjoy living in a green and very special environment with an exceptional quality of life.

She was a force to be reckoned with as she stood up for King Township at York Region and at times had many regional councillors quaking in their boots.

In her memory, King Township lowered its flags to half-mast on all of their buildings ? a great honour and so well deserved.

Thank you Margaret, you will be missed. It is a privilege to have known you. May you rest in peace.

Jane Underhill