

## **Press Release – Northumberland County**

### **Warden Mark Walas releases statement on the death of County Councillor Hector Macmillan**

Cobourg, ON - October 10, 2017 - With news today that Northumberland County Councillor and Trent Hills Mayor Hector Macmillan has died following his brave battle with cancer, County Warden Mark Walas is expressing condolences to Councillor Macmillan's wife, family, friends and the entire Trent Hills community, on behalf of Northumberland County Council and staff.

"It was with deep sadness and regret that Northumberland County Council and staff received news today of the death of Hector Macmillan, County Councillor and Mayor of the Municipality of Trent Hills.

Councillor Macmillan was an absolute force to be reckoned with. Throughout his fourteen years as an elected official, he expressed an unwavering dedication and commitment to the betterment of his community.

In addition to his roles as Mayor of Trent Hills and County Councillor, Councillor Macmillan served two terms as Warden of Northumberland County. Under his leadership - and with his always-staunch support of staff - the County achieved many significant results for the community, including significant improvements to local road and bridge infrastructure, advancements in paramedic first response, development of a Long Term Waste Management Master Plan, including expansion of Northumberland's recycling program, and milestones such as the development of a successful bid to host the first-ever inter-municipal set of Parasport Games.

One of the projects that was particularly important to Councillor Macmillan was securing a new river crossing for Campbellford. Thanks, in large part, to his strident support, the County made significant progress on this initiative, and announced just this past summer that it would be proceeding with design and construction of the new two-lane bridge, following approval by the Ontario government of the Environmental Assessment study.

In everything that Councillor Macmillan did, his constituents were his foremost consideration, and the long-term progress and prosperity of the Municipality of Trent Hills his utmost desire. Even as his illness progressed, he remained steadfast in fulfilling the responsibilities of office, right up until his final days.

Beyond his considerable success in office, Councillor Macmillan is also recognized for his tireless advocacy on behalf of pancreatic cancer patients. With unwavering determination and renowned tenacity, Councillor Macmillan successfully petitioned the Ontario government to expand access to the Irreversible Electroporation (IRE) treatment - also known as NanoKnife - for those suffering from pancreatic cancer. He welcomed news in February of this year that the province would launch a three-year clinical trial.

Councillor Macmillan made decisions on issues of importance that mattered to people, and he believed in standing for what was right even when it might be unpopular. While he was never afraid to take a position on an issue, he was open to changing his perspective if he felt an opposing argument made sense, and he always navigated complex and sensitive subjects with respect for divergent viewpoints.

I can personally say that over all the years we served together on Northumberland County Council, I developed significant respect for Councillor Macmillan's vigilant pursuit of public service. Even more than that, I valued his friendship. He was larger than life, he had enormous impact, and I know I speak for all of Council and staff when I say that he will be sincerely missed. I extend my deepest condolences to Councillor Macmillan's family and friends, and to all of the residents of the Municipality of Trent Hills."

For memorial arrangements and details regarding the public book of condolences, please visit:  
[www.TrentHills.ca](http://www.TrentHills.ca)

- 30-

**For more information:**

Kate Campbell  
Director of Communications  
Northumberland County  
Phone: 905-372-3329 x2335  
Email: [campbellk@northumberlandcounty.ca](mailto:campbellk@northumberlandcounty.ca)  
Web: [www.northumberlandcounty.ca](http://www.northumberlandcounty.ca)

**About the County of Northumberland: Quick Facts**

Located an hour east of Toronto, Northumberland County is a thriving community strategically positioned along Highway 401 with access to both Toronto and eastern Ontario. As the upper tier of municipal government for the region, the County weaves together seven diverse yet complementary municipalities. Northumberland County Council is comprised of the Mayors of each of these seven member municipalities, representing:

- Township of Alwick/Haldimand
- Municipality of Brighton Town of Cobourg
- Township of Cramahe
- Township of Hamilton
- Municipality of Port Hope
- Municipality of Trent Hills