

BOSIAK, Carl

# 53 years of searching *Intell Sept 10/81*

## Prospector given complimentary licence

By HARRY MULHALL  
Staff Reporter

STIRLING--Carl Bosiak doesn't have to bother renewing his yearly prospector's licence anymore.

He's been prospecting so long the provincial government has given him a complimentary lifetime permit.

That suits Bosiak. At 73, when most men have long accepted retirement, he still likes to take time out from being a village councillor and building contractor here, for an exploratory dash into the bush.

The complimentary licences are issued by the natural resources ministry to

prospectors who've taken out permits for at least a quarter-century.

In Hastings County Wednesday, that meant one more besides Bosiak--Earl Sager, native Madoc Township farmer, former long-time reeve of his home municipality and a one-time county warden.

The complimentary permits were delivered by Jim Pollock, MPP Hastings-Peterborough, to both men, who are constituents.

Bosiak took out his first licence in 1928--and went prospecting in the Timmins gold fields. In the 1930s he turned to drilling exploration.

But, he had a practical

bent--his probing of the bush for wealth was by contract for corporate enterprises. It had a more reliable dividend.

"I wasn't prospecting just to strike it rich--but to make a good living, which I did. That's why I took contract work. Otherwise, you were just chasing rainbows," recalls Bosiak.

During the Second World War he was assigned to inspecting aircraft production. Afterward, he arrived in Belleville, moving out to Stirling in 1950--but a few years later heading north to the Bancroft area during its uranium rush.

In the early 1960s he bought the Princess Sodalite Mine in

north Hastings, developing it into a rendezvous for collectors of natural gems. He sold it in 1970. But, in the meantime, he had promoted the Bancroft district rockhound gemboree into a big, annual crowd attraction drawing dealers and collectors from around North America.

He gave it over to the village's Chamber of Commerce last year.

Bosiak says he believes in keeping energetic--the way to retire is to work even harder, if possible.

Prospecting in reality now may be "just a hobby" compared to earlier days.

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