

Mayor Mitch Panciuk's office released a statement Wednesday morning stating: "It is with deep sadness that we have learned of the passing of Gerry Boyce. Gerry has been a pillar in our community as a respected historian, author and educator. Having served as a Belleville City Councillor from 1991 until 1997 his voice was a valued addition to the decisions made in governing our City during that time.

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"All of Belleville City Council joins me in extending our condolences to his family, including his son Egerton Boyce, a former Council member, who served from 2003 to 2018," Panciuk said.

The flag at Belleville City Hall will be lowered in his honour.

Gerry Boyce will also be remembered by thousands of local residents from their student days in his history classes, livened by his passion for history and love of storytelling. Over 32 years, he taught at five secondary schools, was head of a history department for six years and vice-principal for 15 years.

Earlier this year the Hastings County Historical Society created the Gerry Boyce Award to recognize long-term work and effort in gathering, preserving and publicizing the history of Hastings County. The first awards were granted this past summer.

A great community leader, an inspiration to those who followed him and to so many, a very good friend.

"Our community is deeply indebted to Gerry Boyce and his legacy will be with us for many years to come," said Fraiberg.



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