



Intelligencer photo by Tom Gavey

In 1967, the Toronto Maple Leafs won the Stanley Cup — for the last time. It was also the same year that Bill Moreton began as Belleville's city clerk. Moreton retired Friday and was presented with a Leafs' sweater and a 1967 team photograph as part of his gifts.

City clerk retired Friday

Laughter always a key component for Bill Moreton

By Tom Gavey
The Intelligencer

It was only fitting that laughter fill the Sir MacKenzie Bowell Room at city hall Friday during a retirement reception for Bill Moreton.

The city clerk was renowned during his nearly 31 years with the city for his sense of humor and sending people from his office laughing.

Moreton was clearly overwhelmed by the reception, that saw past and present members of city council, city hall staff, friends, other city employees and others fill the room.

"Whenever I've looked good this is the reason," he said, gesturing to staff from his office who he brought to the front of the room with him.

"When I haven't looked good it's something I somehow accom-

plished myself," Moreton joked.

He reflected on "a great" 30 years of working with various mayors, councils, staff and other department heads.

"If you spread happiness it's like a boomerang, you can't get rid of it," Moreton said.

Mayor Ross McDougall lauded Moreton, saying as a member of council, mayor or a citizen whenever he asked for help it came immediately.

"He did the exact same thing for everybody and that's what set Bill apart," he said.

McDougall marvelled at Moreton's ability to soothe angry ratepayers whose first destination was usually the clerk's office.

"They'd go in mad but you must have done something because I never heard from them again. Just what did you offer them?" the mayor asked, laugh-

ing.

Moreton's office staff presented him with a sweater from his favorite NHL team, the Toronto Maple Leafs, that included the number 31 and his name on the back. Active and retired city hall staff gave Moreton a framed painting of the members of the last Leaf team to win the Stanley Cup, ironically in the same year he started at city hall- 1967. It was autographed by the team members.

Members of city council gifted Moreton with a painting of the city and McDougall added a photo of his family's old building across from city hall that was recently torn down.

Moreton, a history buff, joked that he'd seen the photo in McDougall's office and then mentioned it again whenever "the opportunity arose."

Intell.
Pg 7.

Sept 13
1997