

1. Experience in Business 1967-1994

- Honeywell Limited – 1967 – 1995
Honeywell Bull Limited – 1985 - 1992
Bull HN Information Systems Limited 1992 – 1994

Systems Analyst – Designed Retail and Distribution Computer Systems 1967–1970

Canadian Education Manager – Managed staff of 20 educators in Computer Systems, Programming and Software Design (1968-70).

Developed Cobol Skills as Canadian Software Specialist-Competent in Cobol, Assembler, Easy Tran and Lamp in all Honeywell Operations.

Managed Northern Ontario Sales and Systems Office with responsibility for Sudbury, North Bay and Sault Ste. Marie (1971).

Sales Responsibility – increasing responsibility through sales and sales management positions to Branch Manager Toronto (1972-1981).

Executive Positions – Assistant to President and Assistant to Vice President (1981-1994).

Established Municipal Information Division – Built organization into 60 person hardware and software specialty serving Municipal Governments of Canada. Began Division in 1987 with one person. In six years staff of 60, and value \$6.5 M profitability 60%.

Served on Board of Directors – Centre for Advanced Manufacturing 1981-1984.
- Toronto Research Institute.

Public Speaker Engagements on Motivation.

Written articles for Computer Publications, Municipal World on Information Technology.

2. Provincial Legislature as MPP – 1981-1994

1. Elected M.P.P. for York Centre riding on March 1, 1981 and re-elected in 1985, for Markham riding in 1987 and 1990. Resigned on September 30, 1994 to run for office of Mayor of Markham.
2. Appointments while M.P.P. included:
 - Deputy Speaker 1981-1984
 - Parliamentary Assistant for Minister of Citizenship & Culture 1984-1985

- Minister of Correctional Services during Frank Miller government in 1985.
- While in Opposition served as Critic for:
 - Industry Trade and Technology 1985-1986
 - Community and Social Services 1986-1987
 - Housing 1987-1990
 - Seniors 1987-1990
 - Environment 1990-1993
 - Finance and Economics 1993-1994
- Has served on the following Legislative Standing Committees:
 - Public Accounts 1981-1984; 1987-1992
 - Ombudsman 1987-1990
 - Regulations and Statutory Instruments 1984-1987
 - Natural Resources 1990-1993
 - Finance and Economics 1993-1994
- Has chaired the following provincial Task Forces:
 - Seniors and Old Age Homes - “Care for the Elderly”
 - GTA - Task Force on Transportation
 - Ontario P.C. Task Force on Human and Social Services
- Private Members Bills sponsored by Don include:
 - Anti-Smoking Bill in Public Places Act, 1989
 - Protection of Heritage Buildings Act, 1992

Both of these legislative bills were ground breaking new initiatives that were the first of the kind in Ontario. The Anti-Smoking Bill gave the Town of Markham authority to limit smoking in all public places in Markham. The Heritage Bill prevents demolition of historic buildings without going through due process with the Town.

Significant Achievements in Legislative Assembly

- Markham Stouffville Hospital - Member of Steering Committee from 1981-1985; formal approval for hospital given in 1985 while member of Cabinet; maintained momentum at Queen’s Park during Peterson government.
- Highway 407 - helped lead fight for Highway 407 through press conferences, public meetings and internal lobbying, saw the need for the 407 early in the 1980’s.

- GO Transit - successful in obtaining approval for Markham-Unionville-Milliken GO Transit rail services in 1981 as well as second train; successful in expanding train service on Richmond Hill line which serves Thornhill at Langstaff from two to four trains per day.
- Helped lead battle against mega-dumps in Markham during Bob Rae government. Markham was short listed for a major landfill site either on 16th Avenue between Kennedy Road and McCowan Road or in the Rouge Valley near Box Grove.
- Advocate for Rouge Park. Was eventually on the founding Board of Directors of the Rouge Alliance Board.
- A strong vocal advocate for provincial funding for local projects: Schools - Unionville High School, Milliken High School, plus many others; Libraries in Thornhill, Unionville, Markham; Centennial Arena, Thornhill Arena, Markham Theatre, Fletcher's Fields.
- Donald Cousens proposed two resolutions that gained not only unanimous legislative approval but have also become important community support groups. The "Neighbourhood Watch" program and the "Block Parent" programs were enhanced through this provincial recognition.
- Conducted numerous Small Business Seminars to help business.
- Received "Medal of Jerusalem" for work with Soviet Jewry.

3. Experience on School Boards as Elected Trustee 1972-1979

- First elected as Trustee Protestant Separate School Board in Penetanguishene Ontario in 1965-1967 and elected as a Trustee for the York County Board of Education 1972-1979 (now known as the York District Board of Education).
- He served as Vice-Chair and Chair of York Region Public School Board in 1978 and 1979 respectively.
- Founding Trustee and Member of the Board of Directors for East Gwillimbury Foundation for Post Secondary Education. This is a non-profit foundation established to build a University in York Region.

Significant Accomplishments While Serving on the York Public Board

- Board Policy approved on “Community Use of Schools” to enable the public to have free and open access to school buildings.
- French Language Grade 1 - Grade 8 Compulsory in the early 1970’s.
- After a serious accident in a local school where there was no one trained in first aid, initiated a First Aid Training Program for all public schools in York Region.
- “Block Parent” program was a community support group to help children in neighbourhoods when in need. Through Don’s initiative, the Public School Board endorsed the program.

4. Community Involvement at Present

- Member - Unionville Presbyterian Church.
 - Executive Member, Chair - World Vision Canada
- Board and organizations in which Don Cousens has served and continues to demonstrate a personal interest:**

- Founding Co-Chair York Technology Association.
- YMCA – Director & Chair Markham YMCA
- York Region Childrens’ Services – Founding Director.
- Yad Vashem - Director.
- Japanese Cultural Centre - Toronto - Honorary Director.
- Markham Transit for the Disabled Foundation - Director.
- Markham Waxers - Honorary Chair.
- Rouge Alliance - Director.
- York Region Mental Health Association - Director.
- York Region Kidney Foundation – Honorary Chair.
- National Chair - Canadian Mental Health Initiative.
- CNIB - Director.
- Sports for Kids – Director.
- Founding Chair of Markham & York Region Character Community Initiative
- Chair, Board of Directors, World Vision Canada
- Knights of Rizal – Knight Commander

5. As Mayor of Markham – 1994-Present

- Elected Mayor of Markham, December 1, 1994; Re-elected December 1, 1997.
- In addition to being Mayor, Don serves on the following boards that pertain to Town responsibilities:
- York Region Council – member of Council 1994-present, Chair of Finance 1997-2002.
 - Markham Hydro Electric Utility – 1994 to present.

- Markham Stouffville Hospital – Board of Directors.
- Markham Board of Trade – Honorary Director.
- York Technology Association – Founding Honorary Chair.
- LUMCO (Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario) Member.
- AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario) Board Member – 1995-2000.
- CAYRE (Community Association for Youth and York Region Education) founding member & Board Director.
- Markhaven Nursing Home Capital Fund Raising Campaign - Honorary Chair.
- Unionville Home Society – Capital Fund Raising Campaign - Honorary Chair.
- Yee Hong Wellness Centre (Seniors Home Capital Fund Raising Campaign – Honorary Chair.
- Markham Prayer Breakfast – 1999-2003 Honorary Chair.
- PemDi – Financial Funding for Economic Development – Appointed by Federal Government - Director.
- Character Council – Chair for York Region.

6. Significant Achievements as Mayor

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- Founding Chair of Markham & York Region Character Community Initiative.
 - created a Regional Steering Committee
 - Initiated and co-authored “Building Character” a Community’s Success Story
- Launched Mayors Youth Task Force in 1995 – over 350 youth involved.
- Co-ordinate & IBM land acquisition for R & D software lab in Markham with Federal, Provincial and Municipal Government support.
- Honorary Chair – Yee Hong Wellness Centre.
 - Markhaven Seniors Home.
 - Unionville Home Society.
- Founded Don Cousens Charitable Foundation to assist youth and people in need.
- Economic Development for Municipality: Lucent Technology, Motorola Head Office.
- Introduced Quality Services Initiative to the Town of Markham and won Level 1 Recognition for Quality.
- Participated in helping Markham with major awards:
 - Provincial Communities in Bloom – Champion.
 - National Communities in Bloom – Champion.
 - Nations in Bloom – Environmental Award – World Championship.
 - Prince of Wales Prize.
 - Race Relations Award.
 - Youth Award – Royal Bank.
- Honours
 - Medal of Jerusalem - 1995
 - Knight Commander – Knights of Rizal 2001
 - Markham Convention Centre named in his honour 2001
 - Queen’s Jubilee Medal 2003