

Civic Leader Profile: Catherine Knox



When did you join the Junior League?

I joined the Junior League of Montreal in 1969 and transferred to the Junior League of Toronto in 1974.

Describe some of your Junior League projects and committee work.

I had the privilege of various leadership positions, up to and including the President of the Junior League of Toronto 1980 - 1981.

How has the Junior League impacted your life?

The League exposed me to opportunities I would otherwise not have known. I learned skills in public speaking, objective setting, creative leadership, career development, criminal justice and fundraising. Everything I learned in the League led to a successful career as a meeting planner.

Tell us about some of your community work outside of the Junior League.

My experience with the Junior League allowed me to take on a number of leadership roles with other charitable organizations. I was chair of a Metro Toronto Inter-Agency Task Force documenting the value of schools of social work programs to potential employees of non-profit agencies. The League's involvement with St. John Ambulance prompted the Ontario Council of St. John Ambulance to invite me to join their Health Care Committee. Subsequently, I became a member of the Provincial Board of Directors, first as Vice-President Health Care and then Chair of the annual provincial conference, and I was appointed as an Officer of the Order of St. John. I was a member of the Program Committee leading up to the building of the Living Arts Centre of Mississauga. I also served on the Women's Committee of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and was Chair of Board Development while a member of the United Way of Peel Region Board of Directors.

Although not a civic endeavour per se, the Boulevard Club's Board of Directors asked me to chair their centennial year celebrations. I drew on my League experience to work with management, guide the committees, and develop a coffee

table book – all leading to a successful series of events during their centennial year.