



Naming Committee

Honouring People and Places in Our City



7th Floor, 10250 - 101 Street
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Phone: 780-496-6226 Fax: 780-496-6054

Dr. Ivor Graham Dent

(1924-2009)

Dr. Ivor Graham Dent was a former Edmonton alderman and mayor. He was born in February 1924, in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He tried enlisting with the RCAF during the war, but was initially rejected, and began working instead as an office boy for Canadian Pacific Express. After a year, the RCAF accepted him, and he became a bomb aimer for the remaining three years of the war.

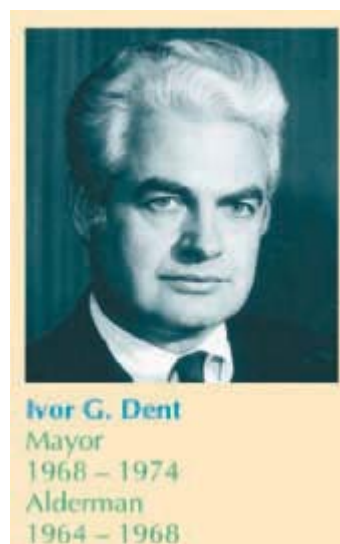
In 1948, he married, and he and his wife, Aileen, had four children. The following year, Dent completed a bachelor of arts from the University of Saskatchewan. In 1952, he came to Edmonton, and began a bachelor of education in social studies and science at the University of Alberta.

Once he finished his degree, he took on a position as principal at the school in Enchant, Alberta. After a year, he returned to Edmonton to teach, and started working towards a master's in educational administration. Then, he went on to complete a doctorate in educational administration at the University of Oregon.

He returned to Edmonton in 1962, and entered municipal politics. He was elected as an alderman in 1964, and served for two years, before successfully running for mayor in 1968. As mayor, he advocated the development of the LRT system and the expansion of the river valley trails.

He remained in office until 1975, when he lost to William Hawrelak. That same year, he returned to education, and took on a job as principal of Rundle Elementary School. In 1978, he played a major role in the acquisition of the Commonwealth Games.

Although he retired in 1980, he continued to maintain a presence on the political scene. He unsuccessfully ran in the 1986 federal by-election as the Pembina NDP candidate. Four years later, he also failed to secure the chairmanship of the Commonwealth Games Foundation. However, despite some electoral setbacks, his overall impact on Edmonton's development was





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commendable. In 1984, the Governor General recognized his achievements by awarding him a membership in the Order of Canada.

Ivor Dent passed away on March 30, 2009.

*Written and Edited by: Ellen Keith
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Former Politician

CBC. "Former Edmonton Mayor Ivor Dent Dies." March 31, 2009. Accessed October 12, 2011. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/story/2009/03/31/edm-dent-dies.html>.

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