

## **Ron McCullough**

Ron McCullough arrived in Australia on Australia Day 1960, and spent six months working for a Dentist in Sydney, before moving to Queensland. In July of that year, he arrived in Mount Isa and commenced working for Mount Isa Mines.

Ron met his wife Gail in 1963 and they were married in Dec. 1966, and set about raising a family.

In 1985, he was elected to the Mount Isa City Council where he served as Chair of Admin and Finance until becoming Mayor in 1990, a position that he held for 18 years. Ron was an executive member of the Urban Local Government Association for many years.

Ron was a board member of the Northern Regional Health Authority from 1990 until 1994, and in the following year became a board member of the North and West Queensland Division of General Practice as a community member. He served on the Division board for a total of 17 years and was appointed to the executive as Treasurer in 2009, as Treasurer he played a major role in transitioning the board to the current North West Remote Health organisation.

In the mid-nineties, as Mayor of Mount Isa he wrote to the Federal Health Minister requesting Mount Isa be considered as a location for positioning a University Department of Rural Health. He was then heavily involved with the process of securing and developing the Mount Isa UDRH facility, both as a Development Committee member and then as Committee Chair. When the facility was funded, he worked alongside then Director of MICRRH, Assoc. Professor Dennis Pashen, in designing the facility and securing suitable residential accommodation.

Ron was active in a number of development and community boards and was awarded the Order of Australia in 1998 for service to Local Government. Following a two-year term as Chair of Regional Development Australia, Townsville and North West Region, he retired from all board positions in 2013, to spend more time with his family.