

LFP 3016/71

# Halifax mayor, Allan O'Brien, accepts teaching post at UWO

Allan O'Brien, the mayor of Halifax for the past five years, announced in Halifax today he is resigning from public life and will accept a teaching position with the University of Western Ontario.

Mr. O'Brien, who has been involved in federal and municipal politics since 1946, will begin a one-year appointment with the department of political science Nov. 1.

In a telephone interview from Halifax, Mr. O'Brien said he has been interested for some time in "the need to train young people in the political end of the urban development process."

He said he delayed announc-



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ing his intention not to run for another term as mayor until now because "it would have made for a lengthy election campaign and would have made me a lame duck mayor much sooner."

His term as mayor ends Oct. 31.

After receiving his BSc from Dalhousie University in 1943, the 49-year-old politician went to work for the federal department of transport in Ottawa.

From 1946 to 1951 he was executive-secretary to M. J. Coldwell, leader of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) party.

Mr. O'Brien, who twice ran unsuccessfully for an NDP seat in the federal parliament, was vice-president of the national NDP party from 1965 to 1969.

He was recently elected chairman of the Canadian

Council for Urban and Regional Research and served as chairman of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities in 1970.

Mr. O'Brien was elected mayor of Halifax in 1966 and re-elected in 1968. He served as an alderman in that city for 10 years before being elected mayor.

Dr. Eric Beecroft, an urban government specialist with Western's political science department, said Mr. O'Brien is one of the top-ranking urban and regional development specialists in Canada.