

Certificate of Merit Citation for Herman Henry Martens

Herman Henry Martens was raised on a small mixed farm at Rosenort, Manitoba. He came to the University of Manitoba and graduated in 1972 with his Diploma in Agriculture.

Upon graduation he returned to the family farm in Rosenort in 1972 and has been active in the operation of it ever since. As President of Hermart Farms Ltd. he oversees three full-time employees on a 780 sow farrow to weanling operation. Herm is President of Fre-Mar Farms Ltd., a 2836 acre grain, oilseed and specialty crop farm and President of Prairie Egg Inc. an 117,000 laying hen operation.

Herm has served as a Director of Manitoba Egg Producers for 11 years and President of the Canadian Egg Producers Council. He has been a member of the Keystone Agricultural Producers Executive. He also was a delegate on the Manitoba Hog Board for 12 years. He was appointed by the Minister of Agriculture to serve two 3-year terms on the Manitoba Veterinarian Medical Board.

Herm served the as Rural Municipality of Morris as Reeve/Mayor for 15 years. He was instrumental in the construction of a sewer and water system for the community of Sperling and providing a system of potable water for all residents in the R.M. of Morris. He served as the Emergency Measures Coordinator for the last 7 Red River floods. He supervised rebuilding of the infrastructure after both 1996 and 1997 Red River floods and conducted an evaluation and refurbishing of the municipal drainage system. He initiated building of dykes around four rural communities one being the Rosenort Dyke and Floodway, the second largest flood protection project in Manitoba. He has served as a Member of the Floodway Advisory Board and the Floodway Liaison Committee.

Herm currently serves as a Board Member and Past President of the Red River Basin Commission which supports international cooperation between Manitoba, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. He is a Member on Rivers West Board and was appointed by the Prime Minister to serve on the International Red River Board, a sub-committee of the International Joint Commission.

He was a Board Member of Triple R Community Futures for 15 years and served on the Pembina Valley Water Co-op, the largest utility out of Winnipeg, for 15 years as Co-chair. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Rosenort for 8 years. Herm has served as President of Morris Minor Hockey. He managed Pee-wee, Midget and Junior hockey teams and served as Director of Hockey Ministries International Hockey Camps. For 13 years he served on the Mennonite Heritage Village (Museum) Board in Steinbach and was a Member of Mennonite Central Committee's Aid Fundraising Auction Committee for 26 years.

Herm and his wife Eleanor are parents to three adult children and 10 grandchildren. The Martens are active members of the Rosenort Fellowship Chapel. Herm and his family have hosted many classes of Agriculture Diploma students who have toured their farm.

“This Certificate of Merit is presented to Herman Henry Martens by the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the University of Manitoba, in recognition of leadership with agricultural organizations and outstanding service to the community at large.”

April 29, 2011
Winnipeg, Manitoba