## Certificate of Merit Citation for Christine M. Hamblin

Chris Hamblin (née Fisher) was born and raised in Dauphin, MB. After high school, Chris attended the University of Manitoba and graduated with a Bachelor of Home Economics in 1977 and a Certificate of Education in 1978. She met her husband Lorne (BSA/75) at a 4-H Rally in Dauphin and following university they returned to Lorne's home community of Morris to farm. Following university, Chris also worked as a home economics teacher, first in the Morris Macdonald School Division, and then in the Red River School Division.

Together Chris and Lorne managed and operated first Lorandon farms and then Redview Farms Ltd., a grain and seed farm with Select Seed Grower status from 1975 to 2012. They were the Outstanding Young Farmer recipients for Mid-Canada in 1992. Today, son David operates the business and Chris and Lorne are the helpers when available. They still farm 240 acres and have put in place a succession plan for David, the farming son and Kevin and Doug, non-farming sons.

Chris has provided leadership to the agricultural community in numerous ways. She served as director and then as vice president for Keystone Agricultural Producers (1991-2001) and was the KAP assessment and taxation committee chair. She also served as an appeal board member for Farm Debt Mediation Services and as an AIDA Producer Review Committee member. Chris was Manitoba's elected producer to Secan (1997-2002), and chaired Secan's board of directors. She served Ag in the Classroom - Manitoba Inc. as a director, vice chair and secretary. She was a Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council director and served on the Strategic Planning Committee and the Innovation Committee.

She has been considered a valued advisor, serving on the Climate Change Task Force as a producer representative on committee chaired by Lloyd Axworthy in 2001, and on the Premier's Economic Advisory Council as a producer representative 2001-2004. Chris presented to several committee meetings related to the 1997 Red River flood as a local farmer and expressed concerns of the area farmers. She and husband Lorne hosted various farm tours including Canadian International Grains Institute's millers group from Brazil, and participated in a Manitoba trade mission to Mexico.

In 2002, she served as commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission, and was subsequently appointed Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Grain Commission from 2002 to 2007. While at the Commission, she led a review of the producer representation on the Western Grains Standards Committee. She also played a key role in the Commission exploring options other than kernel visual distinguishability (KVD) for grain quality management.

Chris has been a tireless community volunteer, having held positons with the Valley Agriculture Society, Morris Curling Club, Morris School Band Parents, Cubs and Scouts, Morris Agricultural Marketing Club, and Ag Expo.

What she and Lorne may be most recognized for is their dedication to and love of the sport of curling. Very accomplished athletes themselves, in 1991, they established a local junior program with 60 curlers ages 8 to 12. In addition, Chris has coached various high school, pre-junior and junior curling teams, and offered school curling programs to students from Lowe Farm, Morris, St. Jean and Rosenort. Chris completed NCI Level 4 Coach certification in June 2008 at the University of Winnipeg. Together Chris and Lorne have very successfully coached teams at Manitoba, Canadian and international events including the Europeans, the 2010 Olympics and 2015 Deaflympics.

Chris and Lorne initiated and chaired the 1st annual DEKALB SuperSpiel in Morris, MB and served as co-chairs of the 8th annual DEKALB SuperSpiel and continue in this role today. This event will celebrate its 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. Over the years, Chris has also been involved with many successful events including provincial curling ladies and mixed playdowns, numerous curling zone playdowns and held many positions at the local curling club level including President.

Today, Chris is manager and instructor for the Cargill Curling Training Centre which opened in fall 2016 and offers individual, team and group instruction.

Chris has been recognized for her very diverse achievements with a number of awards including Outstanding Young Farmer for Mid-Canada in 1992.

Chris and Lorne have three sons David, Kevin and Doug, and 8 granddaughters.

This Certificate of Merit is presented to Chris Hamblin 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.