

Certificate of Merit Citation for Edward W. Tyrchniewicz

Ed Tyrchniewicz was born in 1941, and grew up on a farm at Prairie Grove, just outside of Winnipeg. Ed attended the University of Manitoba and obtained a degree in agricultural economics in 1962. Ed's love of agriculture and his interest in policy was stimulated by professors such as Clay Gilson and Art Wood, and led him to pursue his Ph.D. in agricultural economics at Purdue University.

Ed's career was driven by the desire to contribute to the viability of farm and rural communities. He recognized the importance of developing and educating the youth to ensure the future viability of rural communities.

Ed served at the University of Manitoba (1967-1988) as professor and department head of Agricultural Economics and was also founding director of the Transport Institute. He then served a term as dean of the Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry at the University of Alberta (1988-96) before continuing his career in Manitoba where he held a variety of appointments, including senior fellow at the International Institute for Sustainable Development (1996-99), founding executive director of the Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council (1997), and adjunct professor (Agricultural Economics) at the University of Manitoba from 1998 to 2004. He joined the Asper School of Business in 2003, and served as the first head of the Department of Supply Chain Management and then as associate dean. Ed was appointed a senior scholar in the Department of Agribusiness at the University of Manitoba in 2008.

He is currently involved in teaching in the Internationally Educated Agrologists Program in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences; this program is aimed at helping immigrants with degrees in agriculture from foreign countries get their credentials recognized in Manitoba. He is also a senior associate with his son Allen's agricultural consulting company, Tyrchniewicz Consulting Inc.

Over his long career, he participated in numerous provincial and national public inquiries. Many of his recommendations shaped the development of Canadian and international agricultural policy and programs related to sustainable livestock production, grain handling and transportation, and natural resource management. He also undertook short-term assignments in countries including Ukraine, Bangladesh, Thailand, Kenya, India, Argentina and China. He has had a tremendous impact on Canadian and overseas agricultural policy through mentoring students and others interested in the subject.

"Dr. Ed," as he was known to his students and colleagues, was elected Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada in 1986 and Fellow of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society in 1996, named a Distinguished Agrologist by the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists in 2005 and inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2012.

Ed's distinguished career was aided by his supportive wife and constant companion, Peggy (nee Witty) of Russell, MB. They have two sons, Allen and David, both of whom are involved with the agriculture sector. Ed and Peggy are also the proud grandparents of three grandchildren and even more proud of their four great grandchildren.

This Certificate of Merit is presented to Edward W. Tyrchniewicz 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.

May 2, 2014
Winnipeg, Manitoba