Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of Manitoba

Merit Award

presented to

FRED NICHOLSON

B.Sc. (M.E.), M.B.A., P.Eng.

Fred Nicholson received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Manitoba in 1968. He received his MBA in1975, also from the University of Manitoba. Prior to his engineering studies Fred taught science at a high school. After graduation, he was in charge of the Mechanical Inspection Branch of The City of Winnipeg's Building Inspection Division. After seven years, he was promoted to head of the Division, a position he held for twenty-three years until he retired from the position in 1998. For the final three years he was also the Acting Director of the Environmental Planning Department on a part-time basis.

During his tenure as the chief building official for The City of Winnipeg, he worked very closely with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Manitoba (APEGM) and the Manitoba Architectural Association (MAA) to facilitate investigations regarding work done by members of these associations. This was only possible because of his efforts in getting changes made to The City of Winnipeg Act, The Engineering and Geoscientific Professions Act, and The Architects Act. His activities in this regard have resulted in improvements to the procedures and policies followed by these associations in the monitoring of work done by their members. As a follow up to this process, Mr. Nicholson is now the Chair of the APEGM Practice Standards Committee.

Fred has served with distinction on a number of committees focused on the development and improvement of building and engineering standards at both the provincial and national levels. At the provincial level Fred served as a member of the Building Standards Board, which is responsible for the development of the Manitoba Building Code, the Manitoba Fire Code, and the Manitoba Plumbing Code. He was Chair of the Executive Committee of the Building Standards Board from 1990 until 1997. In his capacity as the Chair of the APEGM Practice Standards Committee, he has led the Committee in the development of a number of practice guidelines, which will be useful to engineers practicing in Manitoba.

At the national level, Fred has been on many committees pertaining to construction codes and standards that are now used as a basis for construction throughout Canada.

Fred is currently Executive Director of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Manitoba. In this capacity he brings a wealth of experience and knowledge as an engineer and former building official and is continuing to serve the needs of the construction industry.

At the community level, Fred was the Chair of the Building Committee for the construction of his church. He has been involved with the local community club as a coach, organizer, and fund raiser. He has also been involved with Scouts Canada.

The Association is pleased to recognize Fred Nicholson's contribution of having established one of the most respected building departments in the country, for his outstanding accomplishments, and for his many contributions in the area of codes and standards by serving so many Association, provincial, and national engineering regulatory areas. He is a most deserving recipient of the Merit Award.