

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
Of the
Province of Manitoba

LEADERSHIP AWARD

Presented to

Nick W. Diakiw

B.Sc. (Civil Engineering), P.Eng., Retired

Mr. Diakiw is a native of Winnipeg, having been born and raised in Winnipeg's north end. He received all of his education in Winnipeg, culminating in his graduation from the University of Manitoba in 1953 with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. During these formative years, Mr. Diakiw was prominent in athletics, particularly in the fields of hockey and football.

During his undergraduate years, Mr. Diakiw was employed as a survey rodman with the City of Winnipeg Engineering Department and after graduation he progressed through the administrative structure of the City to his appointment as Commissioner of Works and Operations in 1974 and culminating in his appointment as Chief Commissioner in 1978. His career with the City of Winnipeg was only briefly interrupted from 1953 to 1955 when he was employed by the Province of Manitoba Water Resources Branch on projects on the Nelson River.

As Chief Commissioner of the City of Winnipeg, Mr. Diakiw was one of only a few engineers to hold such a senior administrative position. For 10 years Mr. Diakiw was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Winnipeg, responsible for the supervision of all employees and the operation of all departments and services.

On November 1, 1988, upon his retirement from the City of Winnipeg, Mr. Diakiw was appointed to the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of The Forks Renewal Corporation which was established by the Municipal, Provincial and Federal governments to own and redevelop a major river front site at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers.

After successful completion of Phase 1 of "The Forks" project, one of the main tourist attractions in Winnipeg, Mr. Diakiw was attracted to the private sector and became Vice-President of Corporate Resources for Lafarge (Manitoba) on November 1, 1994.

Mr. Diakiw has served as Director on a number of Boards of National and International Associations in the fields of public works and transportation. He was president of the American Public Works Association (1981), only the third Canadian in 100 years to hold this position. He is Past President of the International Public Works Federation. In 1992 he was the proud recipient of the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for "Excellence in Public Administration".

Mr. Diakiw has also served on numerous local Boards in a leadership capacity, namely Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation, Winnipeg Library Foundation, Ukrainian Professional Business Club, Friends of the Elmwood Cemetery, and Winnipeg Civic Employees Benefits Board.

In the health care field Mr. Diakiw has served on many boards, specifically, Manitoba Blue Cross, Misericordia Hospital, Holy Family Nursing Home, Winnipeg Hospital Authority, and Winnipeg Community and Long Term Care Authority.

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Manitoba is particularly pleased to present the 2003 Leadership Award to such a deserving member of our Organization.

October 24, 2003