

2018 Tribute Award Citation for Dr. Edgar Williams



Dr. Ed Williams retired from Memorial University in 2004, after almost 40 years of service with the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science. Both during those years and since his retirement, he has given of his time and talents to many community organizations.

He has served on the Board of the NL branch of the Naval Association of Canada for over 30 years, and in addition to other executive positions, has served as Secretary for the past 10 years. He has served on its National Board of Directors, and is the only member of the NL branch to serve as National President.

In 2017, he served as Co-Chair of the Local Organizing Committee for the National AGM of the Naval Association of Canada held in St. John's in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of the Crow's Nest Officers' Club. In 2018, he served on the Local Organizing Committee for the 75th National Reunion of the University Naval Training Division held in St. John's.

He has been a member of the Royal St. John's Regatta Committee for 24 years and, since his retirement has served in many capacities, including as editor of the race day program, Chair of the Constitution Committee, and Chair of the Program Advertising Committee.

From 2008 to 2016, he served as Chair of the St. John's – Avalon chapter of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP), a national, non-partisan, non-profit organization that advocates on behalf of adults 45 and over. Provincially, CARP can be credited for the recent appointment of a Seniors Advocate. Nationally, Ed advocated for the ultimately approved pension splitting for tax purposes, a benefit for Canadian seniors coast to coast.

For the past three years, he has served on the Pouch Cove Heritage Society Executive Committee currently as Vice-Chair. The Society has undertaken a number of initiatives to preserve the heritage and history of the community of Pouch Cove.

Ed has not forgotten his university community. Immediately after his retirement, he was elected to the MUNPA Board of Directors, serving for six years. In 2010, he was the first MUNPA member elected to the Board of Directors of the College and University Retiree Association of Canada (CURAC). He served as Chair of its Awards Committee, was a member of its Constitution Committee, and from 2012 to 2017 served as National Secretary. He helped organize the AGM of CURAC held in St. John's in 2013.

And, he is especially proud that, in 2016, he had served as an usher at our Convocations for 50 years!

In recognition of these efforts, he has been awarded

- the Gold Medallion, the highest award of the Naval Association of Canada
- the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
- the NL Community Sector Council Volunteer Award
- the Senior of Distinction Award by our provincial government, and, most recently,
- the CURAC Appreciation Award.

And today we recognize his commitment to his NL, Canadian and Seniors communities throughout his retirement with the MUNPA Tribute Award.