

# Association of Professional Engineers

of the

Province of Manitoba

## Merit Award

to

### ANDREW TAYLOR

O.C.,B.Sc.C.E.,M.A.,Ph.D.,D.Sc.

*Andrew Taylor graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1931. He worked as a surveyor in northern Manitoba and served as Municipal Engineer, City of Flin Flon, where he was involved in the operation of an early utilidor sewer and water system.*

*In 1940, he was commissioned as Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Engineers, a post that took him overseas to Britain in 1941. He was promoted to Captain in 1943, and in response to a Royal Navy request for a surveyor accustomed to working in a cold climate, was seconded for a secret mission that took him to the Antarctic. After a year on exploratory surveys, the naval commander of the mission resigned, and Captain Taylor was selected to command Operation Tabarin. He surveyed the coasts of Antarctica, compiling new maps and charts and adding over 40 new place names (including Mount Taylor, which is named after him). For his work in Antarctica, Andrew Taylor was awarded the Polar Medal (bar Antarctic). No other Canadian has commanded an Antarctic expedition.*

*Not promoted to Major until late in 1946, following his return to Canada, Andrew Taylor remained in the permanent force. He participated in the establishment of the Arctic weather station at Resolute, and in the first re-supply of Eureka on West Ellesmere Island.*

*Between 1950 and 1952, he was loaned to the US Corps of Engineers, with whom he wrote manuals on land navigation, arctic construction and snow compaction. In 1952, at Kapuskasing, Ontario, Major Taylor organized a demonstration: a loaded DC-3 aircraft on wheels landed on a snow-compacted runway prepared under his direction on a surface that had been a virgin snowfield the day before.*

*From 1946-1952 Andrew Taylor was a member of the Snow, Ice and Permafrost Subcommittee of the Building Research Council of Canada. He received a patent for a method of stabilizing thawed frozen ground.*

*In 1952, Andrew Taylor resigned from the army. He was awarded his M.A. in 1952 and his Ph.D. in 1957 in Geography, both from the Universite de Montreal. During 1955 he published his History of the Exploration of the Queen Elizabeth Islands (Ottawa) and The Physical Geography of the Queen Elizabeth Islands (New York). He has since prepared a number of publications concerning the Canadian Arctic. His 250,000-entry index to the Arctic Blue Books is in the process of publication by the University of Manitoba.*

*In 1966 Andrew Taylor was assistant chief engineer during the siting phase of the Distant Early Warning Line (DEW Line) from Alaska to Baffin Bay. He was later associated with General Engineering Co. of Toronto on projects such as field surveys for the Mid-Canada Radar Line from Wawa to North Bay. In 1970 he opened an antiquarian book store.*

*Andrew Taylor was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1986, and received the Vilhjalmur Stefansson Award for "Excellence in Canadian Northern Studies" in 1990. An honorary doctorate was granted to him by the University of Manitoba in 1991. He has been recognized as a pioneer in arctic engineering under permafrost conditions and as a geographer, historian, author, and polar scholar.*

*Now in his eighty-fifth year, Andrew Taylor O.C.,B.Sc.(CE),M.A.,Ph.D.,D.Sc. continues to work on a history of Flin Flon and on several biographies. He has attributed much of his distinguished career to good fortune, but a more objective observer has described it as a tribute to patience, persistence and hard work.*