



## David John McDowell 1938–2019

Dave McDowell was born in Brandon but grew up on a farm in the Brandon area. After completing Grades 1 to 9 in a one-room country school he moved to Brandon to attend Brandon Collegiate. One year of teacher training at Brandon College followed, after which he taught at Moore Park School. In 1967, he returned to Brandon College to obtain a BA, where he worked as a research assistant for John Tyman in the preparation of his book *By Section Township and Range: Studies in Prairie Settlement*. Heavily influenced by Tyman's approach to geography, Dave later obtained a MA in geography from the University of Manitoba with a thesis on "Settlement and arboreal vegetation change in the Carman-Morden area of Manitoba."

Dave was a dedicated teacher and a strong advocate of the place of geography in the provincial social studies curriculum. For decades he was a member of the Manitoba Social Science Teachers' Association, serving on the executive and as President. For years he edited the *Manitoba Social Science Teachers' Association's Journal*. He was a long-standing and active member of the Manitoba Historical Society serving as President from 1976 to 1978. Dave was equally passionate about heritage preservation. He was the Manitoba representative of the National Trust for Canada, and for decades was a leader in the fight to protect Winnipeg's historic buildings. He was a board member of Heritage Winnipeg, serving as its Chair for two terms: 1981 to 1985 and 2001 to 2003. He received Heritage Winnipeg's Distinguished Service Award in 1993. Dave was also an enthusiastic supporter of the restoration of Winnipeg streetcar No 356.

With John Lehr, in 2011, he co-authored *Trailblazers: The lives and times of Michael and Muriel (Smith) Ewanchuk*. Dave's contributions were recognized by the PCAG in 2012 with the John Welsted Award for Service to Geography in the Western Interior. Dave helped to organize the PCAG meeting held at Morris in 2017, ran the field trip, and subsequently published the field trip guide in *Prairie Perspectives*.

Dave passed away on June 18, 2019. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife Linda, with whom he shared his life for over 50 years, and many close friends and relatives.

John C. Lehr  
University of Winnipeg