

## **Award of Excellence to David K. Schellenberg**

The Mennonite Historical Society of Canada named David K. Schellenberg as the recipient of its 2009 Award of Excellence for his contribution to the preservation of Canadian Mennonite history over a lifetime. The award, made at the Society's January 24 annual meeting in Montreal, especially noted his untiring efforts in the creation and nurture of the Evangelical Mennonite Conference Archives located in Steinbach, Manitoba.

Rev. Schellenberg, who died November 8, 2008 at the age of 91, served as a pastor in the Evangelical Mennonite Conference, and the editor of its English-language paper from 1963 to 1987. He was a conscientious objector in World War II, and frequently emphasized nonresistance in his editorial work. "Dave," as he was known to all, participated in many historical projects for the Evangelical Mennonite Conference, and in his retirement years served on the denomination's archives committee until 2006. He remained a consultant to the EMC Archives until his death.

The Society was pleased to have its annual meeting hosted by the newest provincial Mennonite historical society -- la Société historique mennonite du Québec formed in 2007. Much of that society's efforts have focused on identifying and gathering the documents related to the early history of Mennonites in Québec.

The Canadian Society celebrated several landmarks in the past year. The Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (GAMEO) now boasts 14,000 articles, including all of the articles from the print *Mennonite Encyclopedia*. The Divergent Voices of Canadian Mennonites (DVCM), primarily funded by Mennonite Central Committee Canada, reported the publication of Marlene Epp's *Mennonite Women in Canada: a History* by University of Winnipeg Press and a successful conference on Mennonites and Money at the University of Winnipeg in October 2008.

Among other decisions, the Society approved donating copies of Ted D. Regehr's *Mennonites in Canada, 1939-1970: A People Transformed* to every Mennonite congregation in Canada. Copies of Frank H. Epp's *Mennonites in Canada, 1920-1940: A people's struggle for survival* will also be offered to congregations for the cost of postage.

The Mennonite Historical Society of Canada was established in 1966 to sponsor the *Mennonites in Canada* history series by Frank H. Epp and Ted Regehr. Its membership is composed of six provincial Mennonite historical societies, four Mennonite denominational bodies, Mennonite Central Committee Canada and the Chair of Mennonite Studies at the University of Winnipeg.

The 2009 executive is Sam Steiner (Waterloo, Ontario), President; Royden Loewen, (Winnipeg, Manitoba), Vice-President; Lucille Marr (Montreal, Quebec), Secretary; Richard Thiessen (Abbotsford, B.C.), Treasurer; and Alf Redekopp (Winnipeg, Manitoba), fifth member.



Photo of David K. Schellenberg attached. Caption: Rev. Dave K.

Schellenberg (left) is being recognized in 2007 for his many years of service with Evangelical Mennonite Conference (EMC) archives and the archives committee by Don Kroeker, chair of the EMC archives committee.