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## IN MEMORIAM

# John Elgin Ferguson Hastings, MD, DPH, FRCPC

1928-2004

It is with great regret that we inform friends of public health of the passing of Dr. John Hastings.

John Hastings was born in Toronto in 1928, completed his undergraduate and medical education at the University of Toronto, and then began an outstanding 37-year academic career in the Faculty of Medicine (1956-1993).



John was instrumental in creating the “second generation” of public health education and research when the School of Hygiene joined the Faculty of Medicine to form the Division of Community Health in 1975. He was appointed the first Associate Dean, and served two terms in that position. John was known for integrating up-to-date research techniques with graduate education in public health, for laying the groundwork for community health centres as an integrated model for clinical and community health services, and for encouraging faculty and students to be advocates for health and social reform.

A leading figure in the field of public health, both in Canada and internationally, John worked for the World Health Organization, the Pan-American Health Organization, and post-retirement as President of the Canadian Public Health Association from 1997-1998.

As a result of his tireless efforts, John received a number of awards, including the Ortho Award (1975) from CPHA, the Canada-Queen’s Silver Jubilee Medal (1977) and the WHO/PAHO Fellowship for Administration (1987). In 1992, he was awarded CPHA’s R.D. Defries Award in honour of his profound impact on both the Canadian health care system and on practitioners of community health. Both his work on policy alternatives within community health and his commitment to furthering the education of public health professionals have had a tremendous effect on Canada and our health care.

John was a dynamic leader, teacher and mentor in public health – indeed he was a powerhouse of intellectual creativity, innovation and inspiration. He will be greatly missed by family, friends and colleagues.