

# Top educator award goes to Sheridan principal

Sheridan College President John M. Porter has joined a distinguished group of contributors to education

Porter, a Mississauga resident, will receive the award of Fellow of the

Ontario Institute of Studies in Education at a special ceremony at OISE headquarters, Nov. 28, in Toronto.

Since its inception in 1973, 16 educators have been recognized, in-

cluding James Singleton, former director of education for the Halton public school board; T. Ranaid Ide, chairman of the board of the Ontario Educational Communications Authority, John W. Boich, superintendent of instruction with the Halton public school board; and Norman A. Sisco, former chairman of the Ontario Council of Regents.

Porter has been president of Sheridan College since it opened in 1967. He has watched and been instrumental in expanding the college from one campus to its present eight campuses with 6,000 full-time students and 35,000 part-time students.

Under his leadership Sheridan has developed a number of unique features. The architecture of the buildings has been recognized by educators and architects alike as practical, humane, flexible and well-adapted for applied education.

Porter, from the

beginning, has placed great emphasis on the professional development of teachers, and the provision of support services to teachers with the result that many unique teaching and learning systems have been developed at the college over the years.

He received his public school education in Hamilton and his secondary school education in Galt (now Cambridge) graduating with a Carter Scholarship.

At McMaster University in Hamilton he

graduated in 1944 with an honors B.A. in history and was awarded the Chancellor's Gold Medal as the top student in his graduating class.

Following service as a Lieutenant in the Canadian Army he attended the University of Toronto where he obtained an M.A. in history in 1947. In 1950 he was awarded a National Geographic Society Fellowship to study geography at the post-graduate level at McGill University.

His teaching career began at North Toronto

Collegiate in 1947 where he taught history and geography for nine years. An active member of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF), he served a term as provincial chairman of the OSSTF professional development committee.

In 1956 he was appointed head of history and economics at Western Technical Commercial School and a year later became principal of Downsview Collegiate Institute in North York.

From 1961 to 1963 he served as the first assistant superintendent of Secondary Schools for the North York Board of Education.

Appointed the first director of education for the Galt school board in 1963, he successfully re-organized the school system.

During his career Porter has served on many educational and other organizations. He is past chairman and member of the Committee of Presidents. He is a director of the Ontario Educational Communications Authority and is currently its vice-chairman and chairman of the finance committee.

He is co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Co-operation between Universities and colleges of Applied Arts and Technology. He is fundraising chairman for Cheshire Homes Inc. of Halton and is a director of the Mississauga Symphonic Association.

Always striving to contribute to and improve education, he has made a number of trips to Europe and the United States to study other educational systems.

A Mississauga resident, he is 57 years of age, a widower with three grown children, an active member of the United Church of Canada.