

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF DR. CYRIL MAX KAY

**Dr. Cyril Kay** obtained his B.Sc. in Honours Biochemistry from McGill University and his Ph.D. in Physical Biochemistry from Harvard University. After a postdoctoral period at Cambridge University Dr. Kay joined the Biochemistry Department at the University of Alberta in 1958, becoming a full Professor in 1967. From its inception in 1974 until 1995, he was Co-Director of the Medical Research Council (MRC) of Canada Group in Protein Structure and Function which is internationally known and respected. In that capacity Dr. Kay earned the Distinguished Scientist award from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Alberta on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the medical school. He was a founding member of the Protein Engineering Network of Centres of Excellence (PENCE), a scientific alliance across Canada of more than 60 researchers whose mission is to interact with industry, government and academic centres and he chaired their International Research Advisory Committee. He has also played a major role in the training of protein chemists who are now teachers and researchers in biochemistry and chemistry departments from the University of Victoria to Memorial University. In 1999 Dr. Kay assumed the position of Vice President (Research) of the Alberta Cancer Board (ACB) where he has developed 5 new cancer research strategic initiatives in the areas of palliative care, proteomics and therapeutics, population health, genetic and molecular epidemiology and clinical investigation.

In October 2006, the Alberta government created a Cancer Legacy Endowment Fund of \$500 million to be used for cancer screening and research. Dr. Kay is currently working on the framework for the development of an Alberta cancer research institute to bring provincial researchers together from institutions including the Cross Cancer Institute, the Tom Baker Cancer Centre, the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary. This institute will be critical in building a richer, more vibrant collaborative community of researchers and truly making a profound difference in the lives and health of Albertans and all Canadians.

Dr. Kay has served on numerous national and international committees including the MRC Council of Canada, the Medical Advisory Board for the selection of Gairdner International Awards in Medical Science and as co-chair of the Alberta Health Strategy Working Group, which developed a strategic plan for health research for the province to the year 2010. He holds fellowships in the New York Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of Canada and is an Officer of the Order of Canada and the recipient of the ASTech Award for a lifetime of outstanding contribution to the Alberta science and technology community. In 2003, the Alberta Cancer Board endowed the Dr. Cyril M. Kay Graduate Studentship in Cancer Research as a token of their appreciation of Dr. Kay's role in promoting cancer research.