

Dr. Gordon Porter to Receive CEA Whitworth Award for Research in Education



Renowned Leader of Inclusive Education Movement will be Honoured at the New Brunswick Association for Community Living's (NBACL) awards ceremony in Fredericton.

TORONTO, Feb. 20 /CNW/ - Canadian Education Association (CEA) President Carolyn Duhamel will present the Whitworth Award to Dr. Porter tonight at the Old Government House as part of the NBACL ceremony, which will honour individuals who have successfully furthered the goal of inclusive education at the community level in New Brunswick. This event is one of many taking place across Canada during National Inclusive Education Week from February 17-23, 2008.

Dr. Porter is the Director of Inclusive Education Initiatives, Canadian Association for Community Living; Chair of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission; and a retired professor at the University of Maine. The Whitworth Award recognizes Dr. Porter's substantial contribution to the inclusive education movement nationally and internationally at both a conceptual level - by

broadening and re-defining our understanding of disability and inclusive education - and at the practical level. Using in-class participatory research, he developed training programs for principals, teachers and parents, resulting in an extensive set of research and professional development materials on building inclusive classrooms.

"The Canadian Education Association is very proud to recognize an individual who has devoted his life to ensuring that children with disabilities can thrive in any classroom and contribute to the achievement of all students," said Duhamel, adding: "we are grateful that Dr. Porter's passion for inclusive education research and advocacy will serve to influence policies in Canada and on the world stage for generations to come."

Each year since 1967, CEA has honoured noteworthy contributions to educational research in Canada. Dr. Porter is the co-winner of the 2007 Whitworth award alongside Dr. Claude Trottier, a professor in the Faculty of Educational Sciences at Laval University, who is being recognized for his significant research contribution in understanding youth pathways from high school to post-secondary education and the workforce. Dr. Trottier will receive his Whitworth Award in the spring of 2008.

Founded in 1891, the Canadian Education Association is a bilingual, non-profit organization that serves as a catalyst, facilitator and leader in shaping public and professional discourse about education in Canada. CEA applies this core objective to its current focus of influencing a rethinking of adolescent learning.



NBACL President Marleen Munn, CEA President Carolyn Duhamel, Gordon Porter, and NB Lt. Governor Herménégilde Chiasson.

Dr. Gordon Porter is the Director, Inclusive Education Initiatives for the Canadian Association for Community Living; Chair of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission; and a retired professor at the University of Maine. The Award recognizes Dr. Porter's substantial contribution nationally and internationally at both a conceptual level (by broadening and re-defining our understanding of disability and inclusive education) and a practical level. Using in-class participatory research (now called 'appreciative inquiry'), he developed training programs for principals, teachers and parents, resulting in an extensive set of research and professional development materials on building inclusive classrooms.