Brief Biographical sketch of Tony E. Harras

Raised on a mixed farm in east central Saskatchewan, about 20 miles north of Preeceville.

Attended the Composite High School in Sturgis,
Saskatchewan. Attended the University of Saskatchewan (U. of S.) through the RCAF Regular Officer Training Program.
Graduated in Electrical Engineering (B. Eng.) in 1961 with
Great Distinction. Subsequently received his Ph D from the
U. of S. in 1968. Served a few years in the RCAF and left as a



Flight Lieutenant. While in the RCAF, his service included stints at Air Force Headquarters in Ottawa as well at the Central Experimental and Proving Establishment at Cold Lake, Alberta.

Joined SaskPower in 1968 in their long-range planning division. Was in charge of their controls planning department. Spent several years in SaskPower's Natural Gas Division and headed up their long-range planning department. Later returned to SaskPower's Electrical Division and retired as Vice President of System Operations and Decision Support. Specifically, was in charge of long-range generation, transmission and controls planning as well as in charge of the utility's grid control centre plus inter-utility regulations. While at SaskPower, he became Chair of the Green House Gas Management Consortium organization. In addition, while at SaskPower headed up the non-utility generation initiative including signing major power purchase agreements such as with the Husky upgrader at Lloydminster.

Upon retirement from SaskPower, he and his wife Sharon formed Chermosz Consulting Limited. He spent several years as a consultant for the Government of Saskatchewan's energy and mines department, SaskPower and Northland Power. In the latter case this resulted in two power plant projects, one near Ezterhazy Saskatchewan and the other near North Battleford, Saskatchewan.

As a volunteer, Tony Harras spent many years supporting ethnocultural groups fund their heritage language schools. A major accomplishment was the creation of the province wide Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages (SOHL) organization which was able to access provincial lottery monies on an ongoing basis for sustaining its operation as well as funding dozens of heritage language schools within the province.

Within the Ukrainian Orthodox community, Tony was Parish President of the Descent of the Holy Sprit parish in Regina on two occasions, totalling more than five years and on the parish

council in excess of 15 years. He chaired the Steering Committee on whether or not the Regina parish should build and operate a persona care home. Following the decision to proceed with the construction, he was the Chairman of the Board from 2007 to 2022, March. He also served on the Board of the UOCC Foundation for about 10 years being first elected in 2004. He was elected to the Consistory Board (CB) in 2015.

While on the CB, one of his major assignments was heading up the Recognitions Subcommittee of the National Jubilee Committee (NJC - 100year anniversary of the UOCC). Upon the passing of Gene Zwozdesky, Chair of the NJC, Tony assumed the Chairmanship of the NJC. The 100th anniversary was significant in many ways and according to Metropolitan Yurij, it was one of the highlights of his tenure.

In addition to performing the regular duties of a member of the Consistory Board, Tony Harras worked on the job description for a financial resource person to replace Cheryl Tereck. This eventually led to the hiring of Jennifer Parks. He also spent considerable time and effort in gathering 'insurance related data' In support of addressing the UOCC current insurance 'crises'. During the last several years, he along with Wasyl Rybalka, have been raising donations in support of Sobor XXIV. Finally, from time to time, there occurs significant problems in some of the UOCC parishes. Tony Harras has been an advocate for addressing these in a deliberate and logical manner.

Within the Ukrainian Orthodox lay community, Tony Harras has held a number of executive positions in Regina TYC/UOMA including President and Treasurer, National TYC/USRA President for six Years and National USRL/CYC President for six years. While as National USRL/CYC President, he undertook the initiative to restructure USRL. After a number of workshops and consultations agreement was reached to do so in 2017 at the National USRL Convention in Winnipeg.

Tony Harras and his wife Sharon (nee Rorke) have been blessed with two sons, Matthew and Michael. During his professional career, Tony has been the recipient of a number of scholarships and awards. Probably his most cherished award was received in 1960 from the Engineering Institute of Canada for his standing in the engineering courses of his year and his activities with engineering society affairs. Likewise, during his years of volunteering, he has received a number of awards and medals including in 2002 the Golden Jubilee Medal, 2005 the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal and in 2021 the University of Saskatchewan BUZ Alumni volunteer Leadership Award.