

It is a great honour to announce that Professor Thomas K. Burch is a recipient of the Canadian Population Studies Award this year.

Professor Burch completed his Ph.D. in Sociology and Anthropology in 1962 from Princeton University. He started his career as an Assistant Professor at Marquette University in 1960. He was an Associate Professor at Georgetown University from 1963 to 1970. Professor Burch joined the Population Council in 1970 and became the Associate Director of the Demography Division. In 1975, Professor Burch joined the Department of Sociology as Professor at the University of Western Ontario and retired in 2000. He became Professor Emeritus at Western in 2000, and has been Adjunct Professor at the University of Victoria since 2001.

Professor Burch served as Director of the Center for Population Research at Georgetown University from 1963 to 1970. For 1982 to 1985, he was Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario. He also served as a member of the Papal Commission on Population and Birth Control from 1964 to 1966. He has been a visiting scholar or lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley (1965-66), Fordham University (1973-75), United Nations Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE, 1974), University of Victoria (1992), University of Rome (1993), and Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (1998).

Dr. Burch is recognized for his outstanding research on households and families and his early research on fertility. His widely cited contributions include *Family Demography—Methods and their Applications* (with John Bongaarts and Kenneth Wachter, Oxford Press, 1987); *Demographic Behavior—Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Decision-making* (AAAS Selected Symposium 45, 1980); “The Index of Overall Headship: A Simple Measure of Household Complexity Standardized for Age and Sex” (*Demography*, 1980); “Some Demographic Determinants of Average Household Size: An Analytical Approach” (*Demography*, 1970); “The Size and Structure of Families—A Comparative Analysis of Census Data” (*American Sociological Review*, 1967), “Household Formation in Developed Countries” (with B. J. Matthews, *Population and Development Review*, 1987) an influential survey on literature on household and family demography in *Population Index* (1979), and Kin Availability and Living Arrangements of Older Unmarried Women: Canada, 1985” in *Canadian Studies in Population* (1990, with Doug Wolf and B.J. Matthews). Throughout the 1990s, Professor Burch continued to publish important papers dealing with topics including life transitions, household formation, methods for the study of families and households, remarriage, and kinship analysis. He co-authored interesting papers with Zenaida Ravanera and Fernando Rajulton on lifecourse analysis, including “Tracing the life course of Canadians” *Canadian Studies in Population* (1994) and “Early life transitions of Canadian women: A cohort analysis of timing, sequences, and variations” *European Journal of Population* (1998). He proposed new methods for estimating kinship arrangements in an innovative paper “Estimating the Goodman, Keyfitz and Pullum kinship equations: An alternative procedure” *Mathematical Population Studies* (1995). Since he moved to Victoria in 2001, Professor Burch has continued research on a model-based perspective on demography (including demographic techniques) and its implications for the teaching of demography. These papers are published in various journals, including *Genus*, *Demographic Research* and *Canadian Studies in Population*.

Professor Burch made considerable contributions to the training of graduate students. He was the primary advisor to 8 Ph.D. students and 5 M.A. students. He was also a member of supervisory committees for many other students. Professor Burch is an inspirational and influential figure to many students. Many of his former students now are making significant contributions to the field of demography in various renowned academic institutions in Canada and elsewhere.

Professor Burch has been active in demographic service his entire career. As a young demographer, he served on the Vatican Commission on Population and Birth Control during 1964-66. He was on the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population's (IUSSP) Research Committee on Family Demography and the Life Cycle during 1982-84 and its Committee on Nominations during 1994-97. He was a member of the Government of Ontario's Task Force to Determine Future Population's Health Status of the Comprehensive Health System Planning Commission during 1990-91. Professor Burch was a longstanding, supportive member of Statistics Canada's Advisory Committee on Demographic Statistics and Studies, serving more than a decade from 1994 to 2006. He has been an influential and helpful Canadian Population Society member for many years, serving on Council during 1986-88, as Vice-President during 1990-92, and President during 1992-94. Professor Burch has been on the Editorial Boards of *Canadian Studies in Population*, *Demographic Research* and *Population Policy and Research Review*.