

# **W. D. (Bill) PRESTON**

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William Dent Preston was born in Rosetown, Sask. and received his elementary and high schooling there. Following Grade 12 he attended the University of Saskatchewan, receiving a B.A. (Economics) and a Law degree. He also attended an LL.M. program (advocacy) at Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill.

For the past thirty years, during Saskatchewan Motor Transport's economic evolution from the railways' oligarchy of the late 1960s and early 1970s, through the Highway Traffic Board's paternalistic management of the late 1970s to the early 1990s, and the present environment of continental safety regulation, Mr. Preston has supported the industry as an advocate, adviser and lobbyist.

– as an Advocate, he provided insights on the economics and operations of the LTL industry, both when the railways were withdrawn in the 1970s and when couriers were entering in the 1980s. He has worked for 15 to 20 LTL carriers and a like number of truckload carriers at one time or another.

– now, as an Adviser, he is assisting Saskatchewan carriers stretching into the United States, with safety, immigration and customs compliance.

– as a Lobbyist, he is a founding member and past director of the Canadian Transport Lawyers Association, addressing the importance of equity and uniformity in North American truck regulation, including addresses to the Saskatchewan Trucking Association urging economic deregulation after years of regulatory paternalistic management.

Mr. Preston, who is a diabetic and had a kidney transplant in 1990, has devoted a great deal of time to public service. He is presently a representative to the Saskatoon District Planning Commission; treasurer of Arbitration and Mediation Institute of Saskatchewan; a member of the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation Major Gifts Committee; vice-president of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation – Saskatoon Chapter; on the Board of Directors of Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Canada; past president of Synergy To-day; spokesman for Kidney Foundation of Canada; past chair of Transplant Games Association; past secretary of Saskatoon Medico-Legal Society; past president of Optimist Club of Saskatoon; and a founding member of the Just-Say-No program against drugs in Saskatoon.

Mr. Preston is a founding member of the Canadian Transport Lawyers Association and has been a director on this board three times, providing valuable input for Saskatchewan. He has been a partner with the law firm of MacDermid LaMarsh in Saskatoon since 1976.

Inducted into the  
Saskatchewan Transportation Hall of Fame  
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