

2010 CIBPA PROFESSIONAL AWARD



CHARLES SHERBO QUIET LEADERSHIP

Growing up in a big and busy extended Italian family, Charles Sherbo came to understand early on that the real rewards in life are rarely for show. It was this credo that helped shape Charles' character and explains why, despite having so many professional accomplishments, he remains

an unassuming man.

"I've achieved a lot of success as an insurance defense lawyer and it's very nice to win awards but I'm a low-key guy, just like my father," says Charles. "I think we both saw the value of working behind the scenes."

Charles was born and raised in Winnipeg, the son of a tailor and homemaker who instilled the virtues of hard work and family togetherness. He remembers a childhood home full of people and weekends filled with good times, but it was also a period of diligence and determination that helped prepare him for a career in law.

"There was always a tacit, but sometimes spoken expectation from my parents that I go to university. Their hope, combined with the expectation of St. Paul's High School that I do the best that I can, helped nurture my ambition and inspire my success."

Since graduating from the University of Manitoba's faculty of law in 1978 and being called to the Manitoba bar a year later, Charles has shaped a successful practice in insurance and civil litigation and mediation. He represents a number of North American insurance firms with a focus on professional liability and property and casualty insurance. Charles has served in an executive capacity on a number of professional associations and continues to offer informational seminars to groups such as the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Manitoba Insurance Adjusters Association and Insurance Institute of Manitoba.

While Charles admits his professional work is not widely known to many members of the Italian community, his legal background has come in handy on at least one volunteer occasion. He was called upon when the Italian Canadian League of Manitoba purchased its first stand-alone building in Winnipeg.

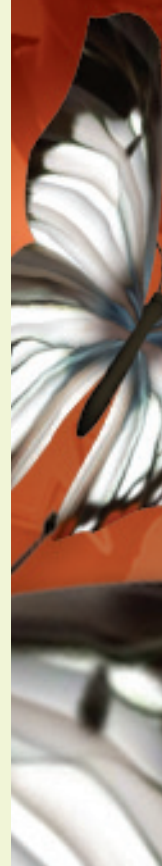
"I've always had a feeling of pride in being Italian and in my own way I've tried to give back to the community," Charles remarks.

Charles's ongoing contribution to Manitoba's Italian community is a testament to his professional reputation and personal resolve. Nurtured by family and supported by teachers, mentors and friends, his effort to build a strong and spirited community is reflected in a long list of volunteer accomplishments. He was one of the founding members of the Order of Sons of Italy Garibaldi Lodge, vice president of the Italian Canadian League of Manitoba, a director of the Centro Caboto Centre, Italian Chamber of Commerce and Italian Canadian Business and Professional Association of Manitoba.

In a broader vein, Charles was also the venue team leader for soccer at the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg and on the board of the Winnipeg Fury Soccer Club. He has also served on the boards of St. Paul's High School, St. Mary's Academy Foundation and the Manitoba Children's Museum.

Charles Sherbo's life has been one of professional and personal achievement, cultivated by a desire to serve and the determination to better his community. While he may prefer working in the background, Charles's leadership is unquestionably front and centre.

by Bernard Kruchak



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