



## **2018 CSPB Society Medal Winner**

William Plaxton

*Queen's University, Ontario*

Dr. William (Bill) Plaxton is an outstanding plant biochemist who enjoys an international reputation for his research in understanding the organization and control of plant carbohydrate metabolism, the biochemical adaptation of phosphate-starved plants, and the roles of post-translational modifications in the regulation of key enzymes. His work has significant long-term applications to oilseed crops, renewable energy sources and phosphorus-efficient crops. Bill has published 138 refereed articles, 30 invited book chapters, and has edited 2 books. He has an H-index of 42 and over 5800 career citations. These are remarkable career metrics in any discipline. Bill has also been awarded numerous honours, including the Society C.D. Nelson award in 1993.

In addition to his outstanding achievements as a scientist, Bill has also contributed to plant biology in two other fundamental ways. He has actively participated in Society regional and national meetings throughout his career, and Bill was Society Vice President from 2009-2011 and President from 2011-2013. Furthermore, Bill's record of training students and post-docs who have gone on to successful careers in science is exceptional. To date, he has mentored 23 MSc, 9 PhD and 13 post-doctoral fellows. His commitment to training has resulted in him populating university positions and industry across Canada and around the world. This is truly one of Bill's legacies as a scientist. Every graduate student and 12 of 13 post-docs published at least one research paper in a biochemistry and/or plant science journal. This level of consistency and success in science is indeed rare and speaks directly to the calibre of training that Bill's program has provided over the past 32 years.