



CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD 2012 COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARD FOR HERITAGE ARTS

HONOURABLE RAY STORTINI

The Honourable Ray Stortini is of Italian descent, having been raised in Sault Ste. Marie's Italian community. He is a retired Justice of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and became one of the first judges of Italian origin in Ontario when he was appointed as judge of York County at Toronto in 1971.

He is the recipient of the Judge I. A. Vannini Award (2007) recognizing individuals who have achieved distinction in having made an outstanding contribution locally and nationally in the field of culture.

In 2012, the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration appointed him to Ontario's highest honour of the "Order of Ontario".

The Honourable Ray Stortini has been and is still involved in the Italian community as well as being attuned to the issues of the Aboriginal community.

He has been instrumental in the revision of the Elettra Marconi Ladies Club and Club Calabrese constitutions, bringing the revisions up-to-date regarding fundamental principles according to which these Italian organizations are acknowledged to be governed.

Ray Stortini organized the committee for revitalization of the James Street neighbourhood, once known as "Little Italy", where he was raised.

In 2006, Ray Stortini published a book: *Only in Canada: Memories of an Italian Canadian*. In it, Ray has chronicled his experiences of being raised in the west end of the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

He also published: *Act 2 of Arrow of the Moon* which was performed by Cree students in Sault Ste. Marie. This was also performed at the Premier's Performance of the 1967 Canadian National Exhibition.

THE HONOURABLE RAY STORTINI
Cultural Advisory Board
2012 Community Recognition Award Recipient
For Heritage Arts