

MARK HUMPHRIES

Shortly after graduating from Centennial College, (Diploma in Ambulance Services), Mark Humphries completed the first Oshawa General Hospital paramedic training, and went on to represent Ontario successfully in International Emergency Care and Rescue competitions. As a paramedic, Mark soon became involved in the community as a board member for the Violence Prevention Council of Durham Region.

During these years his love for the outdoors and his boundless energy fueled his passion for well-kept lawns and gardens. As Mark's career interests began to evolve, he made it a priority to better understand his new trade and earned a certificate from Guelph University as Turf Manager. Mark has owned and operated Humphries Landscape Services (HLS) for 30 years. As a contractor they are effective and successful in Winter Maintenance, and HLS is proud that there have been no successful actions.

Today Mark is a well-known member within Ontario's landscape industry. He supports and mentors the landscape industry not only as a Provincial Board Member (Snow and Ice Management Commodity), Past President of the local chapter, but also sits on several provincial committees. Mark's own businesses, HLS and a retail garden centre of 14 years, employ a combined staff of 23. Mark was significantly involved with the writing the Landscape Ontario Snow and Ice General Contract. He is also one of the founding members of Smart about Salt, has lobbied Insurance issues at Queen's Park and met with the Federal Minister of Industry in 2007. Mark has a strong science background and has spent time with Dale Keep.

Most recently Mark has been sought after not only for his horticulture and vision, but also his business acumen and ability to get the job done. Mark brings a sharp analytical mind with attention to detail.

Mark is very involved in giving back to the community. 2011 saw Mark join the Board of Directors for Parkwood Foundation. He is in his 6th year of a 9-year term. Parkwood has historic designation in three areas – Museum, Grounds and Significant Contribution. As part of his giving back to the community he has been involved in the Whitby Major's Gala (3 years in a row) and is very involved in the Parkwood Gala (4 events).

Mark's involvement in the horticulture industry lead him to facilitate a meeting between Durham College, Landscape Ontario and Parkwood, along with MP Jim Flaherty (in attendance). This resulted in a Horticulture Technician program to be started in September 2012. Mark continues today as a Stake Holder to Durham College Horticulture Program.

Mark's commitment, vision and passion lends him an asset to anything he sets his sights on.