418 RCAF Wing Association President John Hatter presents the 1996 humanitarian award to Dr. Doug McIntosh, Saturday, while Rita Foster, one of McIntosh's nominators, looks on.

Wing's Humanitarian of the Year

Cancer clinic creator honored

By Jack Evans

The Intelligencer

A man who started up the Cancer Clinic in Belleville General Hospital more than 20 years ago, Dr. Douglas McIntosh, is recipient of the 418 Wing RCAF Association Humanitarian Award for 1996.

President of the Wing, John Hatter, commented that Dr. McIntosh "is an excellent choice from a strong field of nominees."

The citation states that the long-time physician "has emphathy and sympathy for the whole human race." He is also credited with giving his patients and their families "part of his own strength to get through their ordeal."

Cases of the recipient paying for medication and treatments for some of his patients out of his own pocket were recorded, even the funeral expense for one of his very young patients, plus his active church work and his role as president of The Christian Medical Foundation of Canada.

Dr. McIntosh received the Canada 125 Medal and also won the William Asler Award for excellence in Christian medicine in 1994.

"I'm greatly honored and surprised," said McIntosh.

He said his work load at the clinic is now shared with another cancer specialist, "but I'm still thinking seriously about retirement, probably sometime next year or soon after."

More than 70 people attended the award banquet Saturday night in the Wing Hall on the Third Concession in Sidney.

Speaker for the evening was Lt. Col. Peter van Haasbeeth, operations officer of 8 Wing at CFB Trenton.

The Humanitarian Award was first presented in 1981.