

BRITISH COLUMBIA ACHIEVEMENT FOUNDATION

March 17, 2015

2015 BC Community Achievers Announced

VANCOUVER – Premier Christy Clark and Keith Mitchell, chair of the British Columbia Achievement Foundation, today named this year’s recipients of the B.C. Community Achievement Awards.

“These 2015 award recipients have all gone above and beyond to make their communities stronger,” said Premier Christy Clark. “The whole province can be proud of their contributions.”

“We recognize individuals today who have made a significant contribution either as volunteers or in the course of their work,” said Mitchell. “We are privileged to showcase and celebrate the contributions of these exceptional British Columbians.”

The recipients of the 2015 awards are:

- Sue Bauman of Vancouver
- Wayne Beckett of Port Alice
- Anne Bethune of North Vancouver
- Howard Blank of Vancouver
- Thomas A. Budd of Kelowna
- Sandy Burpee of Coquitlam
- Pam Craig of Port Alberni
- Mavis DeGirolamo of Victoria
- Victoria Dobbyn of Roberts Creek
- Louis Druehl of Bamfield
- Tanya Fabrichnikova of Vancouver
- Per Gjerde of Surrey
- Judy Jackson of Prince George
- Anjali Katta of Vancouver
- Jack Keough of Clearwater
- Dr. Jim Kirkpatrick of Victoria
- Robert Krell of Vancouver
- Wanda Laughlin of Sointula
- Darren & Beth Laur of Victoria
- Sandi Lavallie of Houston
- Donna Macdonald of Nelson
- J. Reid Maxwell of Coquitlam

- Tom Moffat of Quesnel
- Emily Molnar of Vancouver
- Maryann Ouellet of Kitimat
- Karen Pruiam of Surrey
- Dr. Tom Routledge of Coquitlam
- Christopher Seguin of Kamloops
- Colin Smith of Victoria
- Agnes Snow of Prince George
- Greg Timm of Surrey
- Bob Uden of Nanaimo
- Cindy Wilgosh of Clearwater
- Richard Wruth of Vanderhoof

An independent advisory council selects the recipients of the British Columbia Community Achievement Awards. The 2015 council members are Mayor Carol Leclerc of the City of Terrace, Mary Sjoström, former mayor of the City of Quesnel, and past recipients, Roger Barnsley of Parksville, Michael McCoy of Richmond and Catherine Van Alstine of Vancouver.

The recipients of the 2015 British Columbia Community Achievement Awards will be recognized in a formal presentation ceremony at Government House in Victoria on April 24, 2015. Each recipient will receive a certificate and a medallion designed by B.C. artist Robert Davidson.

The British Columbia Achievement Foundation is an independent foundation established and endowed by the province of B.C. to celebrate excellence in the arts, humanities, enterprise and community service. Launched in 2003, the BC Community Achievement Awards were the first initiative of the foundation, followed by the B.C. Creative Achievement Award for Applied Art and Design, B.C.'s National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, the B.C. Creative Achievement Award for First Nations' Art, and the B.C. Aboriginal Business Awards.

For background about the recipients, please visit
www.bcachievement.com/2015community/backgrounder

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Learn more about the BC Achievement Foundation at: www.bcachievement.com

2015 BC Community Achievement Awards

BACKGROUND

Sue Bauman, Vancouver

Sue Bauman has served her community with distinction as both a professional and community volunteer in the non-profit sector. For 25 years with Family Services of the North Shore, Sue served as a member of the Board, its Board chair and for six years, its executive director.

Richard (Wayne) Beckett, Port Alice

Wayne Beckett is an exceptionally dedicated resident of the community of Port Alice. A 42 year member of the Port Alice Volunteer Fire Department, Wayne is also active in the Royal Canadian Legion and for many years the Marine Search and Rescue Society.

Anne Bethune, North Vancouver

For more than 28 years, Anne Bethune has been the driving force behind Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports. President since 2005, Anne's volunteer leadership has ensured the organization's successful delivery of adaptive ski/board programs on Grouse, Seymour and Cypress Mountains. As well, Anne has been a leader in instructor development provincially and nationally.

Howard Blank, Vancouver

Howard Blank, a Vancouver business executive in the gaming and entertainment industries, has donated his auctioneering skills to help raise millions of dollars for a wide range of BC's charitable and non-profit organizations. Howard also serves on community boards including Honour House and Variety The Children's Charity.

Thomas A. Budd, Kelowna

A generous philanthropist in the Central Okanagan, Thomas Budd makes a difference through his personal support and through contributions from the Thomas Alan Budd Foundation to organizations such as BC SPCA, BC Cancer Society, Okanagan Boys and Girls Club, Kelowna Food Bank and Kelowna General Hospital.

Alexander (Sandy) Burpee, Coquitlam

Since 1994, Sandy Burpee has been a volunteer in the Tri-Cities advocating for those at risk. The Local Restorative Justice Society, Regional Housing Coalition, Tri-Cities Homelessness and Housing Task Group and SHARE Food Bank are examples of organizations that have benefitted from Sandy's remarkable leadership.

Pam Craig, Port Alberni

Pam Craig is a committed voice for literacy in Port Alberni and is now Chair of the Literacy Alberni Society. As a valued community contributor, Pam is also Chair of School District 70 and has volunteered energetically for the Alberni Valley Museum for over 25 years.

Mavis DeGirolamo, Victoria

Since 1997, Mavis DeGirolamo has been a passionate volunteer in the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, promoting cross-cultural awareness and respect for all. Mavis has also volunteered for the Institute of Canadian Citizenship, Black History Awareness Society, and James Bay Community Project.

Victoria Dobbyn, Roberts Creek

Victoria Dobbyn is honoured for her 27-year career as executive director with the Sunshine Coast Community Services Society. Victoria was responsible for the Society's dynamic growth to a multi service organization offering 43 programs. Now in retirement, Victoria continues to serve her community with volunteer contributions.

Louis Druehl, Bamfield

Dr. Louis Druehl has made significant contributions to Bamfield for more than 40 years. He was instrumental in the establishment of the world famous Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre in 1972. Today, he is an integral member of the Bamfield community as a business owner, editor of the The New Bamfielder and a volunteer on local boards and societies.

Tanya Fabrichnikova, Vancouver

Tanya Fabrichnikova has devoted countless volunteer hours to the success of The Attic, a thrift store of Gordon Neighbourhood House in Vancouver's West End. Tanya has led the growth and development of The Attic since 1996, thus ensuring a stable flow of funding while creating the special community hub that it is today.

Per Gjerde, Surrey

Per Gjerde's contributions to the Scandinavian Community Centre in Burnaby have been essential to the centre's continuing success. From his leadership in helping to establish the centre, to its ongoing upkeep and improvement and its programs, Per's vision and generosity have made a substantial difference in his Scandinavian community.

Judy Jackson, Prince George

For over 55 years, Judy Jackson has been dedicated to serving Prince George both professionally and as a volunteer. The Prince George Community Foundation, University of Northern BC, Spirit of the North Health Care Foundation, College of New Caledonia, Prince George Chamber of Commerce are organizations that have benefitted from Judy's leadership.

Anjali Katta, Vancouver

Anjali Katta is a Grade 12 student who has served her school and her community with creativity and compassion. Anjali is the founder and CEO of GirlsCo, a not for profit which organizes women's rights' summits and workshops. As well, Anjali serves on the YWCA Youth Advisory Committee and is the founder of the Vancouver Chapter of I Am A Girl.

Jack Keough, Clearwater

Jack Keough is a respected community builder whose focus is community wellness. Under his leadership as Executive Director of Yellowhead Community Services for the past 20 years, the programs and services he champions have expanded to meet the growing needs of all age groups in the North Thompson region.

Dr. Jim Kirkpatrick, Victoria

Dr. Jim Kirkpatrick was instrumental in establishing the BC Eating Disorders Association in 1990. He has worked tirelessly to develop provincewide treatment protocols for adults, adolescents and children. As well, Dr. Kirkpatrick serves as a member of the team of the South Vancouver Island Eating Disorders Program.

Robert Krell, Vancouver

Dr. Robert Krell, a child survivor of the Holocaust, has dedicated his life to anti-racism, anti-Semitism and Holocaust education. He established the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre in 1994, was a pioneer in taping audio visual testimony from Holocaust survivors and helped form child survivor groups.

Wanda Laughlin, Sointula

Wanda Laughlin is a key member of the community of Sointula on Malcolm Island, contributing to the cultural, social and economic well-being of the area. Her leadership of the Sointula Recreation Association for the past 42 years demonstrates her drive and passion for her community.

Darren & Beth Laur, Victoria

Since 1993, Darren and Beth Laur have presented Internet and Social Media Safety programs to tens of thousands of junior and senior students, teachers, parents and the wider community. Their commitment to providing critical information regarding cyber-bullying and internet safety has had a positive and significant impact.

Sandra Lavallie, Houston

Sandra Lavallie is an inspirational instructor and Career and College Prep coordinator at the Houston campus of Northwest Community College.. As a community advocate, Sandra supports Houston Link to Learning, Houston Community Services Association and Community Futures Nadina.

Donna Macdonald, Nelson

Having served 19 years on Nelson City Council, Donna Macdonald has spearheaded many significant city initiatives including the Cultural Development Committee, affordable housing, social planning, recreation facilities and the development of Nelson's waterfront pathway. Donna was a leader and champion for the Osprey Community Foundation and Nelson CARES Society.

J. Reid Maxwell, Coquitlam

Teacher, adjudicator and mentor, Reid Maxwell is one of the top Scottish drummers in the world and is the Lead Drummer of the award winning Simon Fraser University Pipe Band. His innovations, his dedication and his inspirations have made BC and SFU a centre of excellence in pipe band drumming.

Tom Moffat, Quesnel

Ninety-two year old Tom Moffat is a stellar citizen of the City of Quesnel. From his contributions to the Quesnel and District Museum and Archives and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #94, Tom has ensured that the history of the city and its residents is remembered.

Emily Molnar, Vancouver

Under Emily Molnar's artistic direction, Ballet BC has become a successful internationally recognized contemporary ballet company. A visionary artist, Emily also gives generously of her time to teach, mentor and nurture dancers, choreographers and audiences. Emily is a Director of the BC Arts Council and the Artistic Director of Dance at the Banff Centre for the Arts.

Maryann Ouellet, Kitimat

Maryann Ouellet is passionate for animal welfare in her community. The leader of the Kitimat Humane Society, Maryann is well known for caring for both wild and domestic animals. Fundraising, helping to draft animal by-laws and the Bear Aware program are examples of Maryann's contributions.

Karen Pruij, Surrey

Karen Pruij founded The Princess Project Society in 2009, an initiative that provides Grade 12 students with graduation outfits. A talented organizer, Karen works all year promoting and collecting donations from her community for the benefit of those young people from Delta to Mission who may not otherwise be able to participate in their special evening.

Dr. Tom Routledge, Coquitlam

Dr. Tom Routledge is honoured for his volunteer work in designing, developing and implementing the provincial dental identification database. As a forensic odontologist, Dr. Routledge's work, which is unique to British Columbia, supports the BC Coroner's Service and law enforcement agencies with identification.

Christopher Seguin, Kamloops

Christopher Seguin is the Vice President of Advancement for Thompson Rivers University. His fundraising and partnership achievements have successfully supported new buildings, research initiatives and student bursaries. In the community, Christopher is involved with the Rotary Club of Kamloops, the Kamloops Marathon, Kamloops Child Hunger Initiative, and the Kamloops Blade Runners.

Colin Smith, Victoria

Over many years, Colin Smith has given distinguished service to local, provincial and national boards. Currently he is a board member of the Victoria Airport Authority, 625 Powell Street Foundation, a trustee of the BC Government House Foundation and the national president for the Canadian Society of Senior Engineers. Colin is also vice chair of the Capital Regional District's Core Area Wastewater Treatment Project and a member of Harbourside Rotary Club.

Agnes Snow, Prince George

In 2013, Agnes Snow retired as Regional Director of Aboriginal Health for the Northern Health Authority. Agnes' legacy includes the development and improvement of the cultural competency of Northern Health's leaders and staff, the development of Aboriginal health improvement committees and the Aboriginal Patient liaison program.

Greg Timm, Surrey

From his leadership of the White Rock Renegades Girls Fastpitch Club to his organization of the Canadian Open Fastpitch International Championship and the Women's World Softball Championship to be held in Surrey in 2016, Greg Timm has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the participation of girls and women in the sport of softball.

Bob Uden, Nanaimo

For over 33 years, retired physiotherapist Bob Uden has conducted, three times a week at 8am, at no charge, exercise sessions at Nanaimo's Bowen Park Auditorium for those recovering from major heart problems. Bob has donated over 5,000 hours of his expertise to work with his community's cardiac patients.

Cindy Wilgosh, Clearwater

Cindy Wilgosh is dedicated to building community capacity to support Aboriginal families in the North Thompson region. She was instrumental in the establishment of the North Thompson Aboriginal Cultural Centre and continues to organize its programs and events. As well, Cindy is active with Aboriginal Engagement Success By 6.

Richard Wruth, Vanderhoof

Richard Wruth is responsible for founding, building and growing the Vandherhoof Children's Theatre. Over 22 years, Richard has worked with more than 1,000 children

ranging from Grades two to twelve. He has fostered a love of theatre amongst the youth of his community through his countless volunteer hours.

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