Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health and Eldercare Foundation – 2016 Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA)

The nominees for the 2016 Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA) were honoured on September 29, 2016 at the Salvation Army Citadel in Victoria during the annual International Day of Older Persons Lecture.

The Institute on Aging & Lifelong Health and the Eldercare Foundation honour the United Nations' International Day of Older Persons and the Government of Canada’s National Seniors Day on October 1st with the presentation of the Valued Elder Recognition Award (VERA). The award, first presented in October 2000, recognizes and honours individuals who over their lifetime have given exemplary service to helping others in the Capital Regional District. Award recipients are further acknowledged with a plaque at the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health’s offices.

Thank you to our 2016 VERA nominees, for all you give to the community.
Our honoured VERA recipients:

SHELAGH BELL

- 2002 – present: Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation
- 1998 – present: Summergate Village
- 1992 – present: Saanich Peninsula Hospital

Nominated and supported by:

Karen Morgan, Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation
Donna Salter, Saanich Peninsula Hospital Auxiliary
Dr. Ambrose Marsh, Saanich Peninsula Hospital
Lorne Jack, Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation
Lesley Webb, Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation
Hilda Stopforth, personal reference
Ruth Oakley, Saanich Peninsula Hospital
Michele Cooper, personal reference

“Her resolve, reliability, dedication and determination is very much appreciated and truly admired.”
JULIE CHUPICK

2009—2013 Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church
1995—2009 Victoria Stroke Recovery Association
1994—1999 Friends of Government House Garden Society
1987—present Ukrainian Cultural Centre
1987—1993 Canadian Cancer Society, Cancer Clinic
1986 – present St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church

Nominated and supported by:

Robert Herchack, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church
Mary Anna McKay, Victoria Stroke Recovery Association
Barbara White, personal reference
Bronwyn C. Hackett, Victoria Stroke Recovery Association

“She has given generously of her time, effort and creativity with no expectation of any remuneration.”
FRANCES CORNISH

1984 – present Victoria Hospice Society
1982—present Art Gallery of Greater Victoria

Nominated and supported by:

Kay Larsen, Victoria Hospice Society
Susan Moger, Victoria Hospice Volunteer
Gail Aldrete, Victoria Hospice Volunteer
Wendy Wainwright, Victoria Hospice
Alice Banks, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria

“In the midst of an amazing group of dedicated compassionate people...Fran stands out as someone who is extraordinarily kind, gentle...and dedicated to the care of those facing death and grief.”
Muriel Dunn

MURIEL DUNN

2004—present  Mount St. Mary Hospital
2003—present  Military Family Resource Centre

Nominated and supported by:

Ekaterina Gregory, Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre
Anne McCaffrey, Mount St. Mary Hospital
Christine Farrington, Personal Support Programs Division, National Defense

“She demonstrates sensitivity and compassion in her care for residents with varying abilities and disabilities and finds ways to connect with them.”
AUDREY M. FARNDEN

1995—present  Our Place Society
1968—1994  South Vancouver Island Learning Disability Association
1957—present  Centennial United Church, Victoria

Nominated and supported by:

Julia Dawson, Our Place Society
Adele Barnes, Former President Learning Disabilities Association of South Vancouver Island
Alanna Menu, Centennial United Church
Faith Magwood, retired social worker
Annlyn Lambrick, Former volunteer at Learning Disabilities Association of South Vancouver Island

“Audrey’s engagement in volunteering shows her compassion, persistence and commitment to disadvantaged people.”
GLENYS HUGHES

2007—present  Piercy Respite Hotel, Island Health
2001—2007  Royal Jubilee Hospital
1991—1999  Langham Court Theatre
1989—1991  Bastion Theatre

Nominated and supported by:

Liz McCarter, Piercy Respite Hotel
Samantha Gemmell, Piercy Respite Hotel and Beacon Community Services
Bryony Moorman, South Island Residential sites, Island Health
Maryann Burrows, Music Therapy Association of BC

“Glenys is dependable, efficient, and unfailingly punctual. She loves people, works hard, and always tried to lift the spirits of those around her.”
FAITH MAGWOOD

2016—present  Block watch
2003—2013  Mount St. Mary Hospital
2002—present  Aboriginal Neighbors
2000—present  Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club
1983—present  Family Caregivers Network
1983—1990  Epilepsy and Parkinson’s Society
1977—present  Christ Church Cathedral
1975—1980  Single Parent Resource Centre

Nominated and supported by:

Barb MacLean, Family Caregivers’ of BC
Alan F. Ellis, BC Association of Change Ringers
Sharon Gelling, personal reference
Marilyn Turpin, Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club

“She was the catalyst and champion for family caregivers and is the reason the Family Caregivers of BC exist today.”
John Arthur McBride

JOHN ARTHUR MCBRIDE

2008—present  Oak Bay Emergency Program
2001—2007   Willows School
2002—2004   Scout Leader, Canadian Boy Scouts
Other involvement Victoria Marathon, MS Walk, Times Colonist Open
Golf Tournament, Heart Golf Tournaments

Nominated and supported by:
Eileen Grant, Oak Bay Emergency Program
Dave Cockle, Fire Chief Oak Bay Fire Department, Emergency Program Coordinator
Tom Pearse, Deputy Emergency Program Coordinator
Warren Maidens, Oak Bay Emergency Program

“John is well known for his work ethic, positive attitude and teamwork mentality. He is a dedicated volunteer who can be depended on.”
JOHN H. MCEOWN

2008—2009  Victoria Epilepsy and Parkinson’s Society
1999—present  Victoria Foundation
1994—present  United Way Greater Victoria
1994—2005  Oak Bay Probus Club
1988—1994  Victoria Symphony
1987—1989  Pacific Opera Victoria

Nominated and supported by:
Marg Rose, United Way Greater Victoria
Patricia Jelinski, United Way Greater Victoria
Sandra Richardson, Victoria Foundation
Lorraine Tanner, Victoria Symphony
Don Evans, Our Place

“Everyone at the Symphony continues to be inspired by John through his devotion and support of the Victoria Symphony.”
BARBARA NYLAND

2005—present  First Unitarian Church of Victoria
1994—present  BC Fruit Testers Association (BCFTA)

Nominated and supported by:

Suzanne Beauchamp, First Unitarian Church of Victoria
Ann Aylard, BC Fruit Testers Association
Emily Whitney, personal reference
Laura Doyle, First Unitarian Church of Victoria
Michael O’Sullivan, BC Fruit Testers Association
Emily Sketchley, BC Fruit Testers Association
Dr. Sidney S. Joss, BC Fruit Testers Association

“Her sense of humor, intelligence and lifelong interest in science, agriculture and genetics have made her invaluable to BCFTA.”
Cora Thomson

CORA THOMSON

2007—present  Government House
2001—present  The Lodge at Broadmead
2001—present  St. John Ambulance

Nominated and supported by:

Kelly Sprackett, Broadmead Care
Jessica Bell, Broadmead Care
Bette Anderson, personal reference
Elizabeth Barlow, St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Program
Susan Erling-Tyrell, Government House

“Her positive spirit is an inspiration to others, she is a leader and an inspiration to others in the most unassuming way.”
JAMES A. TYRE

2000—present  Chief and Petty Officers Association
1969—1980  St. John Ambulance Brigade
1964—present  Canadian Forces Sailing Association
1964—present  Scouts Canada – Greater Victoria

Nominated and supported by:

Grace Seabrook, Greater Victoria Area, Scouts Canada
Penny Hill, Camp Barnard
Carolyn Llyod, Scouts Canada
John W.S.F Bradford, 2nd Canadian Baden-Powell Guild
Walter Hauser, Scouts Canada Vic-West

“Jim exemplified the good scouter who gave his all for the sake of the youth.”
JAMES CECIL UPRIGHT

2003—present  Block Watch
2002—present  Westcoast Amateur Radio Association (WARA)
2002—present  Camp Pringle, Shawinigan Lake
2001—present  St. Aidan’s United Church
2001—present  Scouts Canada

Nominated and supported by:

Douglas Koch, St. Aidan’s United Church
Murray Groom, United Church of Canada
Roger Hannaford, St. Aidan’s United Church
Kenneth Stotz, 5th Cedar Hill Scouts

“Jim is upright in his commitment, unflagging in his work and thoughtful in his opinions; he carries the wisdom of his years with humility and good humor.”
BETTY AND PETER WALSH

1998—present  Oak Bay Lodge

Nominated and supported by:

Ruth McCowan, Oak Bay Lodge
Mary A. Sauder, Oak Bay Lodge
Carolyn Hoekstra, Oak Bay Lodge
Dina Glover, Oak Bay Lodge
Joanne Galbraith, Oak Bay Lodge

“Thereir commitment and contribution to our social model of care has been quite simply outstanding.”
PATTIE WHITEHOUSE

2015—present  Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin
1991—present  Pacific Animal Therapy Society (PATS)
1984—2015     Highland District Community Association
1998—present  Crisis Line Worker

Nominated and supported by:

Dr. J. Nicole Little, Pacific Animal Therapy Society
Dr. Lucinda Brown, University of Victoria
Michele Nault McIsaac, M’akola ILBC Housing Society
Jan Cook, Pacific Animal Therapy Society Co-ordinator
Shelia Taylor, personal reference

“She has made a positive difference in the lives of those she has encountered.”

Thank you to all our nominees for all you give to our community!