



Senator Grant Mitchell

Proud to represent Alberta

Honouring Outstanding Canadians

On February 6, 2012, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II marked the 60th anniversary of her accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada—an occasion celebrated just once before, in 1897, by her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria. A commemorative medal was created to celebrate this event. The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal is a tangible way to honour remarkable Canadians of all ages and from all walks of life who have built and will continue to build this caring society and nation through their efforts, contributions and achievements.

As a Senator from Alberta, I was invited to select and nominate candidates for this national honour. I am pleased to feature these outstanding individuals in this newsletter and appreciate their invaluable contributions to our community, province and country.



Dr. Ludwig Carbyn is a Research Scientist Emeritus with the Canadian Wildlife Service and an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta. Throughout his distinguished career, he has made a tremendous contribution to research of wildlife and the environment. Dr. Carbyn's research interests have included avian ecology, ecosystem biology (grasslands), and studies on mammals in several western and northern Canadian national parks.



Jayne Carre has been a design architect for over 30 years and is the co-owner and manager of The Wildbird General Store. She is being recognized for her outstanding efforts to promote conservation and interpretation of nature in Alberta, Canada and abroad. She is also a dedicated volunteer with many organizations including the Soroptimist International Club of Edmonton and Vinok World Dance.

Mary Griffiths worked for nearly nine years with the Pembina Institute, where she was a Senior Policy Analyst in the Energy Solutions team. She made a tremendous contribution to the organization and was the author of several publications focused on carbon capture and storage. Since retiring from Pembina, Mary has been a consultant with Green Planet Communications and volunteers her time and talents with environmental groups including Water Matters.





Stewart Lemoine is an award-winning Canadian playwright, director and producer. He has been writing and directing for Teatro La Quindicina in Edmonton since 1982 and is the author of over sixty plays. He's long been a mainstay of the Edmonton Fringe Theatre Festival, and has premiered twenty works there since the event's inception. In 2008, he was the first recipient of the Province of Alberta's Tommy Banks Award for Achievement in Performing Arts, and in 2010, he was inducted into the City of Edmonton's Cultural Hall of Fame.

Alan Kellogg was an announcer and producer at the CKUA Radio Network. He then became one of the most-influential voices at the Edmonton Journal, as reporter, columnist, restaurant reviewer, theatre and music reviewer, editorial writer, and member of the editorial board. Since his "retirement," he continues to write and is frequently seen in the pages of the Journal, and other newspapers and magazines. Few journalists have had as much impact on the nature and life of Edmonton.



Alice Major is a distinguished poet who has published eight collections of poetry and a novel for young adults. She served as the first poet laureate for the city of Edmonton from 2005-2007. She has been an active supporter of the arts and writing community including as past president of the League of Canadian Poets, the Writers Guild of Alberta and the past chair of the Edmonton Arts Council.



Jane Ash Poitras is an exceptional artist whose compelling works have explored a wide range of topics including Aboriginal history, culture and politics; and the influence of significant historical and contemporary individuals. Over the past 10 years, her work has been exhibited in numerous exhibitions in commercial and public galleries and museums in Canada, the United States, and around the world.



Brian Webb is the artistic director of The Brian Webb Dance Company. He has made an outstanding contribution to contemporary dance in Canada and abroad, including as Artistic Director of the Canada Dance Festival at the National Arts Centre from 2001 to 2011. He has also volunteered with many organizations including Latitude 53, the Alberta Dance Alliance, and the CanDance Network.

Sofia Yaqub is the Executive Director of the Multicultural Women and Senior Services Association in Edmonton. She has an extraordinary record of community service and leadership in multicultural communities in Alberta. Some of the organizations she has worked with include the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities, the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers and the Pakistan Canada Association of Edmonton.





Peter Poole has been a passionate conservationist and philanthropist for 20 years. His research and advocacy efforts contributed directly to the strengthening of environmental protection provisions in municipal, provincial and national policies and regulations such as the Canada National Parks Act. He currently leads the firm Arctos & Bird in Banff.

Helene Walsh is recognized for her longtime leadership and dedication to forestry issues since 1998, including her lead role in the development of the Forest Stewardship Council Boreal Standard. She served as Boreal Campaign Director for CPAWS Northern Alberta Chapter for over 10 years. She is now active as a volunteer with Keepers of the Athabasca with a current focus on caribou and water issues.



Ron Williams is being recognized for his fifteen years of outstanding service to the Historical Society of Alberta. As a Director and then President of the Society, he was deeply committed to community service and the preservation of history in this country. Mr. Williams also served as Mayor of Heisler, Alberta and continues to mentor and assist the town council with its projects.



Cpl. Catherine Galliford has served in the RCMP for over 20 years and was its spokesperson during the Air India and Picton inquiries. In 2011, she came forward with her experiences with harassment in the RCMP. Her courageous action to come forward inspired many others to share their own experiences with harassment and bullying. She is deserving of this honour for her leadership and her compassion to help others.



Retired RCMP **Cst. Krista Carle** has served in the RCMP for nineteen years. She courageously came forward in 2011 with her experiences of harassment in the RCMP. Ms. Carle now serves as an articulate spokesperson in the media on behalf of her colleagues who have also experienced harassment. She is an inspiring leader who is determined to change the culture of the RCMP.

Joe Gunn is the Executive Director for Citizens of Public Justice. In Latin America, he worked in refugee camps and served as a Country Director for Canadian Save the Children. He has coordinated the Make Poverty History campaign, and engaged in research, public speaking and advocacy on national and international issues. Mr. Gunn has also provided leadership to bring faith communities into the discussion of climate change.





Simon Dyer's effective approach to addressing environmental and natural resource management issues since the late 90s has placed him as one of the most authoritative and respected voices in Alberta's environmental NGO sector. He has demonstrated leadership and commitment to addressing some of Alberta's greatest environmental challenges, co-authoring over 20 publications and participating in multiple regulatory and parliamentary hearings and multi-stakeholder processes.

Dr. Marlo Reynolds is being recognized for his outstanding achievements in the environmental sector in Canada. As the former Executive Director of the Pembina Institute, he led its innovative efforts in the development and practical application of triple-bottom-line decision-making tools, strategies for sustainability, and policy research and advocacy. With a PhD in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters in Management, he has contributed his expertise and experience to a long list of Canadian energy companies, organizations and the University of Calgary.



Rob Macintosh is deserving of this honour for his tremendous contribution to the environmental community in Canada. He co-founded the Pembina Institute, served for 10 years as Executive Director and then on the Board until 2011. He was instrumental in its policy developments in climate change, renewable energy, clean energy technology, and environmental economics. He twice co-chaired the Canadian Environmental network, an organization of more than 1400 environmental groups and activist organizations.



Harvey Locke is a committed and very successful environmental advocate. He left the practice of law in the 1990s to pursue environmental policy development with a particular focus on conservation. He was instrumental in, among other things, the expansion of the Nahani National Park and the development of the concept of “Yellowstone to Yellowknife” and the movement around it. He has worked with CPAWS and the WILD Foundation.



Dr. Michael (Mishka) Lysack is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Social Work and adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary. He teaches social work theory and practice, environmental issues, and family therapy. He has been particularly active in providing leadership to bring faith communities into the discussion of climate change.

Carolyn Campbell is one of the province’s most influential conservationists. Her efforts as a director of the Alberta Water Council and her engagement in watershed management planning have made a mark on both provincial water policy and local water management. She is also active at the grassroots level advancing public participation in environmental management and has organized and presented at numerous conferences. Carolyn is currently a conservation specialist for the Alberta Wilderness Association.





Dr. Heather MacFadyen has demonstrated leadership in a long process to ensure the commitments of a regulatory approval for the Three Sisters Project, specifically the establishment and protection of a wildlife corridor running the length of the region, in the Canmore area of Alberta. In large part due to her efforts, a corridor has been established in most of the area, and Heather continues to work to ensure the final leg of the corridor is completed.

Dr. David Keith has made a tremendous contribution to the fields of climate science, energy technology and public policy. He won MIT's prize for excellence in experimental physics and was listed as one of TIME magazine's Heroes of the Environment 2009. His academic appointments are at Harvard where he serves as the Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Physics in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Professor of Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School.



Mardi Tindal is deserving of this honour for her outstanding efforts to promote social justice in Canada. She is the Immediate Past Moderator of The United Church of Canada and a writer and facilitator with Parker J. Palmer's Center for Courage & Renewal. During her term as Moderator she collaborated with faith leaders throughout Canada and around the world, to encourage action on the moral challenges of global warming, climate and ocean change.

Jeffrey Leon is a Partner and litigation lawyer with Bennett Jones. He is being recognized for his distinguished professional accomplishments and outstanding service to the legal profession in Canada. He has dedicated countless volunteer hours to a variety of organizations including as President of the Advocate's Society and Chair of the Board of Directors of Pro Bono Law Ontario.



Diane Rhyason is the Executive Director of the Centre for Public Education Alberta. She has made a tremendous contribution to the non-profit and public legal education sectors in Alberta and Canada with her visionary and collaborative leadership.

Terry Godwaldt is a dynamic teacher at Queen Elizabeth High School in Edmonton and the founder and director of The Centre for Global Education, a non-profit educational organization. The objective of the Centre is to provide students with global learning opportunities, enhanced through technology, informed by sound research and innovative teaching. The Centre is fulfilling its mission thanks to the inspired and dedicated efforts of Mr. Godwaldt.





Howard Sapers is being recognized for outstanding public service throughout his career and in particular, for his remarkable work and contribution to Canada as the Correctional Investigator for Canada. Mr. Sapers has distinguished himself in his commitment to fairness and justice in our criminal justice system and in his service in the Alberta Legislature.

Dr. Tanyss Munro and **G.E.M. Munro** are the founders of the Amarok Society. The Amarok Society is a Canadian charitable organization that teaches extremely poor, uneducated mothers in the world's worst slums to become neighbourhood teachers. The inspiring and dedicated work of the Munros has had a profound impact on the lives of so many women and children.



Questions or comments? Please stay in touch!

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