





# **BC** Achievement Foundation

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We are grateful at the BC Achievement Foundation to live and work on the unceded, ancestral territories of the  $x^w m = \theta k^w = i^2 m$  (Musqueam),  $S_k w_k w_l = k^2 m + k^2 m$  (Squamish) and  $s = l m + k^2 m$  (Tsleil Waututh) Nations.

The BC Achievement Foundation (BC Achievement) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to honour excellence and inspire achievement throughout British Columbia. Established in 2003, BC Achievement delivers five annual award programs that recognize the accomplishments of individuals, groups and organizations in the areas of community leadership, applied art + design, First Nations art, Indigenous entrepreneurship and reconciliation.

Celebrating the spirit of excellence in our province, BC Achievement serves to honour the best of British Columbia. By recognizing the accomplishments of BC's entrepreneurs, artists, innovators, and community leaders, our award programs pay tribute to exceptional people, doing exceptional work, while carving a path forward for others to follow.

BC Achievement is guided by a volunteer board of directors from a broad cross section of British Columbians.

#### Mission

To honour excellence and inspire achievement throughout British Columbia.

### **Vision**

BC Achievement recognizes, celebrates and stewards outstanding British Columbians while elevating their stories of excellence; it inspires others to build stronger and more engaged communities.

Elevate Excellence. Share Success. Inspire Change.

### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The pandemic experience continues to change the way we live and work while spurring many non-profits to reassess program delivery. BC Achievement took this shift on with determination, ensuring our mission to honour excellence and inspire achievement throughout the province drives all actions.

Empowered by a considered and engaged board, BC Achievement staff has met with success, and I thank our outstanding board volunteers for their guidance and confidence in the foundation's work. The commitment and dedication of our small yet mighty team allows us to be nimble, relevant and resilient. I am in grateful awe of everyone's enthusiastic and creative tenacity. Challenges become opportunities and despite the inability to gather, BC Achievement's new #shinethelightbc digital campaign unites awardees, showcases their achievements and expands our reach into the communities we aim to serve.

The introduction of ELEVATE, the foundation's monthly newsletter, creates an engagement platform for all BC Achievement stakeholders, including nominators, supporters, awardees and alumni and we are excited by this opportunity to further 'elevate' success and fuel an inspirational achievement movement.

The inaugural British Columbia Reconciliation Award program, launched in partnership with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of BC, illustrates how people throughout BC aspire to "paddle together in the same canoe". We are indebted to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of BC for its leadership on the reconciliation journey and commitment to our shared goals.

Thanks to the support of our donors, BC Achievement was able to meet its annual program delivery objectives and invest in the best in BC. Going forward we anticipate increased



participation to our fundraising initiatives. Our sponsorship family continues to grow as more organizations are keen to give voice to excellence in the province and inspire others to follow.

We know opportunities abound for program areas to develop and, in doing so, tell the stories of our province and its peoples: I encourage you to take a moment and watch the awardee films and share their achievements. Their collective strength, skill and courage inspires all of us to build better and more engaged communities.

With thanks,

Cathryn Wilson
Executive Director

### CELEBRATING AWARDEES THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

BC Achievement celebrates success across the entire province. We are proud to honour the awardees and the communities they represent.

### Community Award

Aldergrove Bella Bella Hornby Island Kelowna Langley New Westminster North Vancouver Port Coquitlam Salmon Arm Sechelt Smithers Surrey Terrace Vancouver Victoria West Vancouver

### BC Reconciliation Award

Williams Lake

Courtenay Kamloops Kelowna North Vancouver Penticton Prince George Vancouver

### Fulmer Award First Nations Art

Bella Coola Campbell River Masset Terrace Victoria

### **Indigenous Business Award**

Alkali Lake
Brackendale
Burns Lake
Cranbrook
Langley
Logan Lake
Mount Currie
Victoria

### Carter Wosk Award Applied Art + Design

Garden Bay Vancouver



### A Year of Achievement

I write this letter filled with hope and gratitude. As an antidote to the daily news, I read **BC Achievement's blog** and I watch the celebratory films on our **YouTube channel**.



We at BC Achievement have been inspired every day this past year by the hard work and achievements of people in British Columbia and beyond. It has been a privilege to witness, honour and recognize the accomplishments of scientists, health care workers, policy makers, activists, writers, artists, designers, community leaders, young people, volunteers and many others. These are exceptional and ordinary people doing extraordinary work.

We have seen first-hand the forging of new relationships and thriving social, creative and entrepreneurial activities across the province. All of us benefit from more engaged and more hopeful communities. All of us gain from thoughtful, collaborative approaches to the issues and problems of our days.

### What does the world of our achievers look like?

In a world in which people are innovative:

Carol Anne Hilton, 2020 Indigenous Business Award of Distinction

In a world in which people are creative: Nancy Bryant, 2020 Applied Art + Design **Award of Distinction** 

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In a world in which people weave past and present in new traditions:

Evelyn Vanderhoop, 2020 First Nations Art Award of Distinction

It is a world of better, stronger, more resilient communities and a world of dedication and service: https://www.bcachievement. com/award/bc-achievement-communityaward-2021/

It is a world of leadership in furthering reconciliation: https://www.bcachievement. com/award/british-columbia-reconciliationaward-2021/

I am, as always, grateful to our dedicated staff who have carried out their work in our founding spirit of joyful celebration. And I raise my hands to my fellow board members for their support of BC Achievement's mission. I am particularly grateful to our government members, who made time to honour achievement, dedication and service while also getting on with the task of governing this remarkable province. We welcomed three new board members this year, MLA Kelli Paddon, Carol Anne Lee, OBC and ý Imix<sup>w</sup>m Christopher R. Derickson, each has brought to us welcome new ideas and energy.

We all remember with great affection and respect our founding Chair Keith Mitchell, QC, in whose honour the BC Achievement Foundation

launched the Mitchell Award of Distinction, given annually to one of the Community Award recipients. The Mitchell Award recognizes an individual who, through his or her work and volunteer activities, has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to elevating the community in which they live, and those who serve it. The recipient has a unique and selfless leadership style that encourages and inspires the full participation of those he or she leads. Keith Mitchell served as the BC Achievement Foundation's founding Chair and guiding light for 13 years. A leader by example and a mentor at heart, Keith brought clarity to the role of the foundation in its mission to celebrate excellence in British Columbia.

I look forward to the year to come, with its many opportunities to highlight and celebrate the achievements of those that make our communities stronger.

Anne Giardini, OC, OBC, QC Chair



# **BC Achievement Indigenous Business Award**

In its twelfth year, the Indigenous Business Award (IBA) program recognizes, celebrates and promotes excellence in Indigenous businesses by sharing stories of inspiration, innovation and resilience with the goal of providing models of success for other aspiring Indigenous entrepreneurs to follow.

#### The IBA program serves to:

- Raise the voices of Indigenous entrepreneurs and businesses who are building significant socio-economic opportunities and generating cultural resurgence across the province;
- Facilitate increased Indigenous representation in the business sector;

- Create a platform for sharing stories of resilience and ingenuity from Indigenous entrepreneurs and their communities that help 'to shift the narrative of trauma and deficit that are often at the forefront of news stories'; and,
- Develop and foster strategic partnerships with key stakeholders that lend their support to elevating excellence and inspiring achievement in Indigenous business.

The program is open to entrepreneurs, businesses, educational and financial institutions, professional services, social enterprises, First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities. And, despite a challenging year, there continues to be a remarkable drive and passion amongst these businesses. Within the nominations we saw energy, thoughtfulness and clear direction for a hopeful future.



2020 Awardee, Alkali Resource Management Ltd.



2020 Award of Distinction, Carol Anne Hilton, MBA

#### **AWARD OF DISTINCTION**

The 2020 Award of Distinction was presented to Carol Anne Hilton. CEO and Founder of the *The Indigenomics Institute* and the Global Center of Indigenomics, Carol Anne is a dynamic national Indigenous leader and senior advisor with an international Masters Degree in Business Management (MBA) from the University of Hertfordshire, England.

Carol Anne is of Nuu-chah-nulth descent from the Hesquiaht Nation on Vancouver Island. She has led the establishment of a line of thought called #indigenomics – the building and strengthening of Indigenous economies and is the author of Indigenomics: Taking A Seat at the Economic Table. Carol Anne received an Indigenous Business Award in 2013 for Outstanding Business Achievement.

"I am inspired by the entire volume of Indigenous entrepreneurs that have come through this program. To see the increasing force of Indigenous business and how we are connecting to our families and communities and to our future in new ways through business – that inspires me and that is Indigenomics."

Carol Anne Hilton, 2020 IBA Award of Distinction

In 2020 a total of nine Indigenous businesses, entrepreneurs, partnership entities and community-owned enterprises were recognized from across the province of BC, adding to a cumulative total of over 200 distinguished alumni since inception.

Awardees were selected by members of the 2020 jury panel: Kim Baird, Jacob Beaton, Jessie Ramsay and Laurie Sterritt. Support for the IBA program comes from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and is generously endorsed by: Program Sponsor – TD Bank Group; Category Sponsors – Enbridge, New Relationship Trust, Ovintiv Inc., Teck, Vancity, and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority; Supporting Sponsors – ANTCO, BC Hydro, BC Transit, CN, FortisBC, and Shaw; and Media Sponsors – BIV, CFNR and First Nations Drum.



2020 Awardee, Nicole McLaren, Raven Reads

#### **FEATURED 2020 AWARDEES**

Raven Reads is a unique subscription box service that delivers custom, curated books and giftware written or created by Indigenous people from around the world. Born from a desire to educate others about the devastating impact of residential schools on Indigenous people in Canada, Raven Reads aims to create a safe space for dialogue while providing opportunities to learn about other cultures and history. Raven Reads has distributed over 5,000 books written by Indigenous authors and has become a trusted brand that supports other Indigenous entrepreneurs by purchasing directly from the source.

**OneFeather** is an Indigenous technology firm redefining the Indigenous experience through tradition and innovation. Grounded in First Nations values and principles, OneFeather offers digital services for modern nation-building including election and voting services, data sovereignty, community engagement, and a full suite of individual banking solutions.

OneFeather supports over 190 First Nations and Métis Nations across the country and is leading the way to cultivate systemic change towards eliminating the pains of colonialism and systemic racism and enabling Indigenous sovereignty in Canada.



2020 Awardee, Lawrence Lewis, OneFeather Mobile Technologies Ltd.

### Recipients of the 2020 Indigenous Business Award are:

Young Entrepreneur of the Year: 0

Longhouse Media, Langley

Business of the Year – one-to-two person enterprise:

0 Raven Reads Books Ltd., Logan Lake

Business of the Year – three-to-ten person enterprise:

0 Skwálwen Botanicals, Brackendale

Business of the Year – II+ person enterprise:

0 OneFeather Mobile Technologies Ltd., Victoria

Community-Owned Business of the Year – one entity: 0

Alkali Resource Management Ltd., Alkali Lake

Community-Owned Business of the Year – two or more entities:

0 Lil'wat Holdings Limited Partnership, Mount Currie

Business Partnership of the Year:

0 Nupqu Resource Limited Partnership, Cranbrook

Award of Distinction:

0 Carol Anne Hilton, Victoria

Outstanding Business Achievement:

Top of the Line Catering, Burns Lake





The Fulmer Award program honours excellence and inspires achievement in First Nations art throughout the province. Celebrating the intersection of arts and culture, while honouring First Nations artistic traditions, this program creates a platform for community engagement, mentorship and storytelling.

The Fulmer Award in First Nations Art (FNA Award) program was launched in the fall of 2006 to recognize up to five BC First Nations artists for artistic excellence in traditional, contemporary or media art. The annual award is designed for artists from BC First Nations who have demonstrated a commitment to their art practice, have accumulated a body of work, and who are recognized in their communities as artists.

The awardees are selected by an independent jury. In 2020 that jury comprised Corey Bulpitt, past recipient and Haida artist; Philip Gray, past recipient and Tsimshian artist; and

Connie Watts, Associate Director of Aboriginal Programs, Emily Carr University, and artist of Nuu-chah-nulth, Gitxsan and Kwakwaka'wakw ancestry. Brenda Crabtree, a member of the Spuzzum Band with both Nlaka'pamux and Sto:lo ancestry, serves as an advisor to the jury.

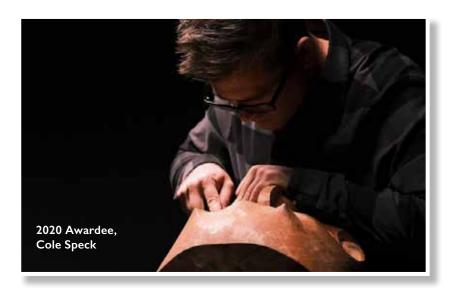
BC Achievement is grateful to The Fulmer Foundation for its generous and ongoing support of the First Nations Art program.

#### **2020 RECIPIENTS**

Cole Speck, Kwakwaka'wakw
Campbell River
Crabtree McLennan Emerging Artist

Every day after school, I would go and hang out in the carving shop down below and watch all these guys carving and making these incredible masks. I found it so mesmerizing. It just seemed to all make sense.

Born in 1991, Cole Speck was raised on the 'Namgis reserve on the island of Alert Bay and has been carving since he was a teenager. Cole comes from a strong cultural and artistic





2020 Awardee, Jaalen Edenshaw

heritage, which is evident in his carving. He is the great grandson of late Chief John Speck of the Tlowitsis, who was the father of the late Henry Speck Sr. Cole's work has immense reverence for old traditions, while pushing into contemporary realms. As a young carver, Cole apprenticed under accomplished master carvers Beau Dick and Wayne Alfred and assisted in the making of the Pat Alfred Memorial pole with Beau Dick and in the carving of a pole for a Northwest Coast exhibition in Holland with Rande Cook.

Jaalen Edenshaw, Haida Masset



It's important that our generation continues to put them (poles) up...these things bring us forward and makes a statement that we are still here.

A member of the Kayaahl 'Lanaas Eagle Clan of the Haida Nation, Jaalen has always been surrounded by Haida art. At a young age he started studying the discipline of Haida formline design under his father Guujaaw's guidance and he later carved with James Hart. Jaalen is particularly known for his carving of monumental cedars. Although Jaalen has pieces in collections and museums around the world, he considers his most important works to be the ones that stay on Haida Gwaii. He feels a great debt to his homeland and has worked to highlight the environmental importance of land and sea and the Haida way of being.

Lou-ann Neel, Kwakwaka'wakw Victoria



A lot of artists I have spoken to don't think that what they do is anything special, they just do what they were taught. It is most important that you believe in yourself. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't – make that the reason why you do.

Lou-ann Neel descends from a rich history of artists on both sides of her family. She has been practicing in Kwakwaka'wakw design for over forty years in various forms – jewellery, textiles and hides, paintings and prints, and vector designing in multiple applications including animation, storybook illustration and 3D printing. In addition to her



2020 Awardee, Lou-ann Neel



2020 Awardee, Kelly Robinson

artistic practice, Lou-ann is a community arts' advocate - always seeking to build solutions that will enable Indigenous artists to balance their respective rights, responsibilities and obligations with new, contemporary expressions of their work.

Kelly Robinson, Nuxalk/Nuu-chah-nulth Bella Coola



The stories I'm trying to tell with my art is the history and the true meanings around our culture - you can't find it anywhere else; you can only find it within yourself.

Kelly Robinson's roots and family origins are with both the Nuxalk and Nuu-chah-nulth Nations. As a child his curiosity in his culture was piqued and Kelly became determined to learn and refine the art — specifically the unique design forms of the Nuxalk. Under the guidance of his uncle, noted Master carver, Alvin Mack, Kelly developed his own techniques in creation of two and threedimensional art forms. Kelly uses his art to tell stories of the Nuxalk and Nuu-chah-nulth people, their land and culture. He examines stories of the supernatural, potlatch societies, and the land and sea in his artwork.

Nathan Wilson, Haisla O Terrace



I liken my journey as an artist to being in a canoe, the wake that I left behind has led me to where I am today.

Nathan Wilson is inspired by his Haisla family history which drives him to keep alive a long line of carving traditions. The carvings he works on are inspired by encounters with grizzly and black bears, mountain goats and whales, attending feasts and totem pole

raising ceremonies. His understanding of the natural world we live in helps him find a deeper meaning to becoming a First Nations Artist. Now a teacher in his own right, he continues to create masks, sculptures and relief carved panels for various galleries, as well as private commissions with various collectors.

### Evelyn Vanderhoop, Haida O



Masset

Award of Distinction

I think women have to be bold when we go forward into our art. We really need to have the confidence to walk up to a gallery or to a museum and say 'my art is worth your notice'.

Evelyn Vanderhoop comes from a long line of Haida weavers and is an accomplished weaver in the Naaxiin (more commonly called Chilkat) tradition. Evelyn studied the origin of this technique by reading journals of the early explorers and their accounts of the first contact with the Haida as well as learning from the stories of her ancestors. She has studied the old robes in museums around the world and learned their complexities. Evelyn has mastered the art of Naaxiin technique where weaving not only moves across horizontally, but vertically as well, creating curves, slopes and circles with multiple braids enclosing the formline shapes.



2020 Awardee, Nathan Wilson



2020 Award of Distinction, Evelyn Vanderhoop



### **BC** Achievement **Carter Wosk Award** Applied Art + Design

The Carter Wosk Award in Applied Art + Design honours excellence and inspires achievement throughout the province. Not only does this program directly contribute to the cultural and economic fabric of the province, it also shines a light on functional art which enhances day-to-day life for individuals while enriching our collective experiences.

Launched in 2004, the program is named in honour of BC philanthropist, academic and visionary Yosef Wosk, OC, OBC, Ph.D. and Emily Carr University of Art and Design, professor emeritus, designer and curator, Sam Carter. Recipients are selected by an independent jury comprised of past recipient, Pam Goddard, Propellor Design a multi-disciplinary design studio; Ron Kong, craft advocate; Bill Pechet, 2018 Award of Distinction laureate and Anita Sikma, past recipient and jewellery designer.

BC Achievement remains grateful for ongoing support from the Yosef Wosk Family Foundation.



Each of the award recipients are innovators and visionaries. Their work merges beauty with function, drawing people in and providing a mental sanctuary for the observer.

Nancy Bryant, Costume Designer Vancouver Award of Distinction



When you finally feel like everything has come together from the sketch...and everyone from the team has come together and we have created this thing, it is just such a proud moment.

Nancy is an established costume designer who has worked creatively with various dance, theatre, opera and film directors internationally and across Canada, with Vancouver being her home for the last 40 years. She brings her unique vision to every project she works on, while maintaining a collaborative approach. Nancy's involvement with each of her creations and the actors who wear them is legendary, "She has been known to stand backstage during a dress rehearsal, sewing costume pieces onto actors as they walk onstage." — Morris Panych, director and playwright.



2020 Award of Distinction, Nancy Bryant







The experience I offer in my studio, I try to offer a very intimate, and direct experience with my practice. This is how I make my work. I work with glass but I'm part of the arts and culture industry.

Benjamin Kikkert is a hot glass and mixed media artist whose work explores themes of landscape and history through cultural, industrial and impressionist artifact. The vibrant and gritty textures of this work at once evoke senses of familiarity and discovery within the viewer. Working from his studio, Vancouver Studio Glass on Granville Island, Benjamin offers the public an "open kitchen" approach to a professional glassblowing studio. Contemporary custom glass design and traditional craftsmanship are presented together with ever changing variety. His goal is to offer the visitor an original experience with each visit to his studio, and to share his passion for the possibilities of glass.



2020 Awardee, Karen Konzuk

## Karen Konzuk, Concrete Jewellery and Objects Garden Bay

I am so lucky to be working in BC because we are surrounded by beauty and that is the best inspiration for me, and it allows me work-life balance.

Through a studied use of clean lines and an unwavering commitment to a minimalist aesthetic, Karen's studio, KONZUK has developed a renowned modern line of handcrafted concrete jewellery for the contemporary design lover. Her wearable architecture is constructed from the meaningful use of industrial materials inspired by her appreciation of the west coast landscape and the majestic sky. Recently she has expanded her designs to include household objects that evolve the striking aesthetic of her jewellery pieces into a series of extraordinary objects that bring a sense of drama to the living space.



2020 Awardee, Jeff Martin

### **Jeff Martin, Furniture Designer** Vancouver

Everything we do pushes towards this idea that we're making stuff that hopefully people will own for a long time. The ultimate goal is that they are multi-generational pieces.

Jeff Martin is a furniture designer and collaborator. His studio explores research-based design that creates beautiful, interesting and high-quality furniture. One of his studio's philosophies is that beauty is inherently a

characteristic of how interesting something presents. Never one to remain with a single medium, Jeff has expanded his practice to experimental glass blowing, focusing on cork molded, mouth blown collectible glass vessels. Jeff has recently moved to a large production facility that serves as a showroom and makes space for other designers to help promote their work. It is in keeping with Jeff's mentorship to younger artists and designers, along with his determination to collect and promote their work that makes him a force within the design community.

### Michael Barton and Mari Fujita, Product Design

Vancouver
Outstanding Achievement

When society is faced with challenges, it is time to double our commitment to the acts which elevate us.

Michael Barton and Mari Fujita are multidisciplinary designers who share backgrounds in art, film making, and



2020 Outstanding Achievement, Michael Barton and Mari Fujita

architecture. Their collective aim is to share a feeling of joy through design. Their practice is focused on the development of inventive and elegant design solutions, while seeking the potential for their designs to deliver a greater impact. Their design practice stands out as symbolic of the times we are in, each face mask they have made is designed, hand dyed, hand printed, and hand sewn in Vancouver, transcending the medium. Practical and psychological needs are met by their product: people need PPE and they also need to feel uplifted.



### 2020 Awardees Carter Wosk Award in Applied Art and Design









### British Columbia Reconciliation Award

BC Achievement, in partnership with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, launched the inaugural British Columbia Reconciliation Award in November 2020. The Call for Nominations received an outstanding province-wide response reflecting the remarkable contributions so many British Columbians are making toward reconciliation.

In April 2021, the recipients of the inaugural British Columbia Reconciliation Award were honoured through BC Achievement's digital #shinethelightbc campaign. The award recognizes nine extraordinary individuals and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect, and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of British Columbia, or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts.

Individual Recipients:

- Dawn Drummond
- Doris Paul
- Corey Payette
- Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
- Dr. David Suzuki
- Corporal Christopher Voller

Organization Recipients:

- Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Marine Plan Partnership for the North Pacific Coast
- xagqana‡ ?itkini‡ (Many Ways of Doing the Same Thing) Research Team

Being part of establishing the reconciliation award program and serving on the inaugural selection committee has been heart-warming and empowering. Reviewing all the nominations has shown me the power of reconciliation and how it can change people and community's lives for the better. It shows we can live together and achieve great things if there are willing people working towards a vision of reconciliation.

BC Achievement Board Member Cloy-e-iis, Judith Sayers

The inaugural recipients of this award are shining examples of those in British Columbia who have demonstrated the many approaches to furthering reconciliation through meaningful action. It is humbling and inspiring to read of their stories, their incredible impacts in their communities, and to learn from their perspectives on reconciliation. I am deeply honoured to have the opportunity to partner with the BC Achievement Foundation and the selection committee to develop this award and to recognize these exemplary individuals. Reconciliation must take root in our hearts, within families, between generations, and throughout our communities. I invite all British Columbia to join us in celebrating these champions, to learn from their stories, and to strive to build relationships with each other across cultures.

The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award draws inspiration from the work of the Honourable Steven Point [Xwě | Tqwěl těl], 28th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and a founder of the Award. His hand-carved red cedar canoe, Shxwtitostel, currently on display at the BC Legislature buildings, was created as a symbol of reconciliation, with the understanding that "we are all in the same canoe" and must "paddle together" to move forward. In honour of this



- T'esóts'en, Patrick Kelly Leq'á:mel First Nation
- Nicole McLaren Métis Nation
- Chief Sophie Pierre Ktunaxa Nation
- Cloy-e-iis, Dr. Judith Sayers Hupacasath First Nation
- T,lalisam, Dr. Kim van der Woerd 'Namgis First Nation





# **BC Achievement Community Award**

The Community Award shines the light on the contributions of extraordinary British Columbians who build stronger, more resilient communities and serve as examples of dedication and service. Particularly in a time of flux and uncertainty, these individuals continue to give of themselves when it is needed most.



Now in its eighteenth year, the Community Award continues to reflect the spirit of excellence, vision and commitment of those who impact their community in meaningful ways. In the absence of an in-person celebration, BC Achievement honoured this year's 25 awardees through its online campaign: #shinethelightbc. Elevating those who go above and beyond to make their communities more caring, dynamic, healthy and inclusive.

"This year's Community Awardees are, without exception, remarkable British Columbians who have strengthened their communities during challenging times. As a result of their commitments to causes beyond themselves, they have ensured that BC is a better province for all of us."

John Horgan, Premier & BCAF Board Member

An independent selection committee made up of two Mayors and three past recipients adjudicated this year's award program: Aisha Amijee (2020 Awardee), Mayor Lee Brain of Prince Rupert, Aart Schuurman Hess (2018 Awardee), Mayor Michelle Staples of Duncan, and Andy Yu of Vancouver (2018 Awardee). The award recipients received a medallion and lapel pin designed by renowned First Nations artist Robert Davidson, CM, OBC. His words, describing the meaning within his art, underline the importance of the awardees' contribution to the province:

Cultural hero: spirited, undaunted, fearless, bold. Raising our awareness to a higher understanding.

The BC Achievement Foundation Board of Directors presented the 2021 Mitchell Award of Distinction to Chef Amber Anderson for her work with H.A.V.E. Culinary Training Society. Named in honour of Keith Mitchell, QC, past Chair of the Foundation, and its guiding light for over 13 years, the award recognizes leadership that empowers others to engage.

An award brings credibility and opens the door for new opportunities and improves employee engagement. An award shows we take pride in our work, and we do it well. It helps to inspire others to want to be and do better. By acknowledging excellence in the achievements achieved, you are encouraging more of it to happen in the community. Recognizing the good work being done is setting a standard, and inspiring others to follow.

Amber Anderson, C.C.C. 2021 Awardee

The recipients of the 2021 Community Award are:

Amber Anderson C.C.C., Vancouver
Harbhajan Singh Athwal, New Westminster

Ann Blaauw, Langley

Doug Chinnery, Hornby Island

James Robert (Bob) Coates, Victoria

Kal Dosanjh, Surrey

Norah Flaherty, Vancouver

Dr. Balbir Gurm, Surrey

Yúya'ainux'v Anita Hall, Bella Bella

John & Joyce Henderson, Salmon Arm

Teresa Kazemir, Port Coquitlam

Zeba Khan, Vancouver

Angelika & Peter Langen, Smithers

Dr. Christine Loock, North Vancouver

Lil Mack, Williams Lake

Pulchérie Nketsap Mboussi, Victoria

Jack McGee, West Vancouver

Elaine Monds, Victoria

Marcia Nozick, Vancouver

Nirmal Parmar, Terrace

Dr. Jane Jae Kyung Shin, Port Coquitlam

Lurana Kikuko Tasaka, Vancouver

Rosemary Thomson, Kelowna

Linda Williams, Sechelt

Cheryl Young, Aldergrove







### 2021 COMMUNITY AWARD RECIPIENTS



### TRIBUTE BEN DAVIDSON (1976 - 2020)



The exhibition *Emút | Being Home* was held in the spring of 2021 at the Libby Leshgold Gallery in Vancouver and was dedicated to the memory of Ben Davidson. An exceptional artist, beloved father, son, husband and friend, he passed away unexpectedly in August 2020 at age 44.

BC Achievement was honoured to be part of this exhibition of Northwest Coast Indigenous Art in collaboration with the Libby Leshgold Gallery at Emily Carr University of Art and Design, and in conjunction with guest curators Ray Hartley and Sheila Hall from the Aboriginal Gathering Collective.

"This exhibition is part of a process of rewriting the historic narratives of governments and institutions while expressing an Indigenous perspective and an Indigenous truth. It is also an expression of Northwest Coast Indigenous artists understanding of Emút - of being home."

Ray Hartley and Sheila Hall, curators.

In 2014 Ben was a recipient of the First Nations Art Award. Learning from a long line of Haida artists, including his father, Robert, and his uncle, Reg, Ben drew upon his knowledge of traditional Haida design and craftsmanship to create unique contemporary pieces. Finely carved jewellery, cedar masks and panels, paper and forton casts and totem poles were part of Ben's practice.

Ben was also recognized in 2017 for entrepreneurial excellence and received an Outstanding Business Achievement designation in the Indigenous Business Award program. 'All About U Arts Ltd.' was owned and managed by Ben and specialized in contemporary Haida art. Ben worked with emerging and established Haida artists to provide a contextualized, commercial platform for their artistic practices.



Why BC Achievement? – Kevin Bent (Treasurer/Secretary)

As a proud British Columbian, I believe it's important to recognize and celebrate excellence in our province. This helps strengthen and build community spirit and inspire present and future generations.



Why BC Achievement? – ýlmix<sup>w</sup>m Christopher R. Derickson

It is an honour to serve an organization which is devoted to recognizing and celebrating the talents and achievements of our fellow British Columbians. The BC Achievement Foundation is an essential part of building positive and vibrant communities throughout our province.



Why BC Achievement? - Yuri Fulmer, OBC

Recognizing extraordinary achievement not only benefits the recipients and their communities but inspires all of us to create a better Canada for all Canadians.



Why BC Achievement? - Christopher Gaze, OBC (Vice Chair)

BC Achievement reaches every corner of British Columbia and recognizes the excellence and the good that the people of our Province do for the betterment of all. Being honoured has a massive impact on individuals, their family and their friends. I am deeply proud to serve on the Board and to play a small role in furthering this noble mission.

### Why BC Achievement? - Anne Giardini, OC, OBC, QC (Chair)

It is a hallmark of successful organizations and societies that they not only recognize achievements but celebrate them. All of us – if we are lucky – have a memory of giving or receiving recognition for an act of creation or collaboration or inspiration or community building. BC Achievement exists to shine light on those whose actions make this province a better place for us all.



### Why BC Achievement? - Carol Anne Lee, OBC

It is an honour to be involved in an organization that celebrates the incredible contributions and achievements of our fellow British Columbians. It is wonderful to recognize accomplishments that inspire us all. Building stronger, more inclusive communities across BC is so important for the future of our province, now more than ever.



### Why BC Achievement? - Jack Lohman, CBE

BC Achievement is an alternative way of seeing the world and building a better future by honoring those who inspire us. We believe all of us have capacities that can be mobilized for the benefit of society. Take a look at who we honour...



### Why BC Achievement? – Scott McIntyre, CM, OBC, LLD (Hon.) (Past Board Chair)

Honouring British Columbians of exceptional cultural and social achievement is a compelling mandate, one that makes an important contribution to the province. I am enormously proud of having been involved with BC Achievement since its establishment in 2003.





### Why BC Achievement? – John Montalbano

It is important to highlight and celebrate the achievements of those that make our communities stronger. Humility and celebration are not mutually exclusive, nor necessarily conflicting. We have much to celebrate within our communities.



### Why BC Achievement? - Walter Pela

British Columbia is built by truly remarkable people doing incredible work in varied fields throughout the province. They deserve to be recognized and celebrated, and their achievements amplified, inspiring all of us in our ambitions to make an impact.



### Why BC Achievement? - Sophie Pierre, OC, OBC

Excellence in our Province comes in many forms and activities, from business growth to community involvement to incredible works of art. Help us celebrate excellence, be a nominator!



### Why BC Achievement? - Cloy-e-iis Judith Sayers, OC

I really enjoy being able to work with BC Achievement to identify people to honour in the various areas we do awards. It is such positive work setting the stage to find people we can hold up and say to the world, "this is what they have achieved."

#### **GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS**

### Why BC Achievement? - Premier John Horgan

BC Achievement gives us the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the best and brightest in British Columbia. Honouring inspiring individuals for their contributions to our communities encourages others to step up and do the same. BC Achievement fosters a spirit of generosity and selflessness throughout our province.



#### Why BC Achievement? - Hon. Lisa Beare

The BC Achievement Foundation recognizes and celebrates the extraordinary accomplishments of people in this province. The Foundation highlights the best among us, and in doing so, inspires a spirit of excellence that helps build strong and prosperous communities. I'm proud to serve on the board of the Foundation and delighted to have the opportunity to exemplify those whose remarkable achievements contribute to our growth and success as a province.



### Why BC Achievement? - Kelli Paddon

The amazing and diverse people of BC are the heart of our province. The BC Achievement Foundation gives well deserved recognition to incredible British Columbians and, in turn, inspires us all to explore our own excellence.



### Why BC Achievement? - Rachna Singh

To celebrate and acknowledge the incredible work of British Columbians, in various fields, across our diverse province. BC Achievement honours excellence and serves as an inspiration to all of us to strive to do the same.



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