



ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

NEWS
RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 28, 2007

14 PEOPLE TO RECEIVE ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VICTORIA – Recipients of the Order of British Columbia for 2007 were announced today by Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo. Her Honour praised these outstanding citizens of B.C., who have contributed to strengthening the province in a variety of exceptional ways. “Nominations for the Order of British Columbia come from every corner of the Province. Those who are honoured by receiving the Award represent our very highest order of citizenship and dedication.”

This year’s recipients of British Columbia’s highest honour are:

- Michael Audain of West Vancouver – businessman and supporter of visual arts and culture
- Sudarshan Bakshi of Richmond - South Asian community leader and volunteer
- Iain Baxter, O.C. of Vancouver \ Windsor, Ontario – photo-conceptual artist
- Larry Bell of Vancouver – leader in government, business and volunteering
- The Honourable William Richards Bennett, P.C. of Kelowna – retired premier
- Dr. Frances John Blatherwick, C.M. of New Westminster – public health innovator
- Max S. Cynader of Vancouver – world leader in brain research
- Gordon Robert Diamond of Vancouver – business leader and philanthropist
- B. Brett Finlay, O.C. of Vancouver – infectious disease researcher
- Gloria M. Gutman of Vancouver – gerontology pioneer
- Josephine Mary Mills of Mill Bay – Down syndrome advocate
- Daphne Odjig, C.M. of Penticton – leader in the development of native art
- Patricia Mathilda Proudfoot of Vancouver – family law reformer and retired justice
- James Spencer of Vernon – winter sports leader and promoter

Recipients of the Order of British Columbia have been carefully selected from public nominations by an independent advisory committee. The Advisory Council, chaired by British Columbia Chief Justice Lance Finch, also includes Bill Barisoff, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly; Michael Stevenson, Simon Fraser University president; Councillor Brenda Binnie of Castlegar, president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities; Virginia Greene, deputy minister of the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat; and two previous recipients of the Order, Dr. Wallace Bakfu Chung of Vancouver and Janet Nita Connolly of Atlin.

-more-

- 2 -

The presentation of these awards will take place at a ceremony at Government House in Victoria on June 14, 2007, at 1 p.m.

The Order of British Columbia is the province's highest honour for outstanding achievement. Since the Order was first introduced in 1989, 243 people have received the award. Information about the Order of British Columbia, and previous recipients, is available at www.protocol.gov.bc.ca on the internet.

-30-

1 backgrounder attached.

For further information contact:

Manjit Khaira
250 356-9459