



ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

NEWS RELEASE

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Honours and Awards Secretariat
Province of British Columbia

THIRTEEN TO RECEIVE 2009 ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VICTORIA – Thirteen British Columbians who have contributed to the province in extraordinary ways will be awarded the Order of British Columbia, Lieutenant-Governor Steven Point, Chancellor of the Order, announced today.

“The Order of British Columbia is this province’s highest recognition of their excellence, their achievement, and their citizenship,” Point said.

This year’s recipients are:

- Samuel Belzberg, O.C., of Vancouver – real estate and investment
- Leon Bibb of Vancouver – international performer
- Hart Buckendahl of Penticton – energy use specialist, former mayor
- Peter Dhillon of Richmond – philanthropist and leader in agriculture
- Honourable D. Ross Fitzpatrick of Kelowna – businessman and former senator
- Robert E.W. Hancock of Vancouver – professor and health researcher
- Dr. Michael R. Hayden of Vancouver – geneticist and health researcher
- Clarence Thomas (Manny) Jules of Kamloops – First Nations leader
- Dolores Kirkwood of New Westminster – dancer, choreographer and educator
- Brandt Louie of Burnaby – businessman, chief executive officer
- Dr. Ray Markham of Valemount – physician
- Roy Akira Miki of Burnaby – teacher, human rights advocate; poet
- Dr. Linda Warren of Vancouver – radiologist, professor

Recipients of the Order of British Columbia have been selected by an independent advisory committee from public nominations. The Advisory Council, chaired by British Columbia Chief Justice Lance Finch, also includes Bill Barisoff, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly; Dr. Allan Cahoon, president of Royal Roads University; Robert Hobson, president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities; Lorne Brownsey, deputy minister, Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat; and two previous recipients of the Order, Peter Legge of Coquitlam and Mohini Singh of Kelowna.

The Order of B.C. investiture ceremony will be held for recipients and invited guests at Government House in Victoria on Sept. 16, 2009. Since the Order was first introduced in 1989, 287 people have received the award.

BACKGROUND

2009 ORDER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA RECIPIENTS

Samuel Belzberg, O.C. – Vancouver

Hugely successful in international business Samuel Belzberg is also one of British Columbia's most forward-thinking philanthropists.

Mr. Belzberg specializes in ambitious and innovative solutions to pressing issues, focusing his prodigious efforts on causes that appeal to his deep caring for humanity.

He is the founder and chair of the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, which has invested more than \$25 million in research and outreach. He inspired and led Simon Fraser University's first fundraising campaign, which raised \$68 million in three years. As founding chairman, he has invested time and money in the humanitarian work of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

He established, in partnership with Canada's federal government, the Action Canada fellowship program which fosters leadership among up to 20 outstanding young Canadians each year.

In banking, real estate and investment, Mr. Belzberg built a strong reputation for success including founding Gibralt Capital, which today owns and successfully manages real estate and capital investments.

Mr. Belzberg's enlightened and generous contributions have been acknowledged through numerous awards and honours over the years, including an honorary doctorate from Simon Fraser University. Mr. Belzberg is a member of the Order of Canada and was promoted to the officer category in 2002.

Leon Bibb – Vancouver

Leon Bibb is continuing his long and distinguished career as an international performer. His role in the development of British Columbia's arts community is fundamental.

Mr. Bibb contributed to the early success of Vancouver's Arts Club Theatre when he obtained the rights to the musical review, "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris". He was part of the successful run of the review at the Arts Club. He was also part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of that review at the then newly-established Stanley Theatre.

Mr. Bibb's cantata, "One More Stop On The Freedom Train", documenting the journey of black slaves to Canada, was presented in Vancouver at Expo 86, and was developed as a television special.

Mr. Bibb has multiple screen appearances, recordings and awards to his name. He's appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show and toured with Bill Cosby. He was the first black performer to host his own talk show on NBC.

Mr. Bibb is an outspoken advocate for minority rights, and in 1992 founded A Step Ahead, a program that provides a forum for youth to discuss issues of diversity, racism, bullying and

multiculturalism. This ongoing program has been performed in over 120 schools across Canada and with Mr. Bibb's support, a foundation has been established to fund it.

Among his honours and achievements, Mr. Bibb is an inductee to the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame, a recipient of the 2002 City of Vancouver Cultural Harmony Award, the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal, and the Harry Jerome Lifetime Achievement Award.

Hart Buckendahl – Penticton

Hart Buckendahl is a former mayor of Oliver, B.C. But the one-time politician has made it his passion to educate people about energy efficiency, long before most people knew about greenhouse gas.

For 21 years Mr. Buckendahl championed the need to reduce electricity consumption, and educated consumers by performing home energy audits, installing water saver kits and recycling inefficient fridges. The owner of a construction company, he was an early adopter of technology that brings higher levels of energy efficiency into new and existing homes.

In 1988, Buckendahl began working with West Kootenay Power (now FortisBC) and enthusiastically publicized energy-saving tips on radio, TV, home improvement shows and door-to-door.

His tireless efforts to bring compact fluorescent lights to greater use by consumers resulted in sales jumping from 5,000 to 50,000 units annually, and effected a significant transformation from incandescent lights in 2003.

Mr. Buckendahl did not conserve his personal energy; he has also served on numerous local boards, and was an instructor and supporter of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets and Scout Movement.

He was elected to Oliver town council as a councillor and subsequently served two terms as mayor.

Peter Dhillon – Richmond

Peter Dhillon is well-known as an outstanding business and community leader. In addition to the great benefits that his family cranberry growing business, the Richberry Group of Companies, has given to the economy of B.C., his philanthropic and charitable service has spanned a wide variety of important areas; including health care, child humanitarian support, education, and sport.

Mr. Dhillon has played an active role on many organizations and boards; from the Board of Directors of the YVR Airport Authority, Simon Fraser University, director and chair of the Audit Committee of the Vancouver 2010 Organizing Committee, a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee, director of the Vancouver General Hospital and UBC Hospital Foundation and director and former vice chair of Ocean Spray Cranberries.

He has made significant financial contributions to many organizations including: the Canadian Olympic Committee, Canadian Red Cross, Arts Umbrella, Kwantlen Polytechnic University and the Khalsa Diwan Society. At the University of British Columbia he established the Rashpal Dhillon Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Endowment and the Rashpal Dhillon Track & Field Centre.

He is chair of the Vancouver Branch of the Right to Play, an international humanitarian organization for children in communities affected by war, poverty and disease.

The Honourable D. Ross Fitzpatrick – Kelowna

Ross Fitzpatrick's commitment to British Columbians is demonstrated in many ways – business leader, volunteer, and ten years as a member of the Canadian Senate. His special concern for First Nations has benefited the Okanagan Nation economically, environmentally and spiritually.

During his career, Mr. Fitzpatrick founded businesses in the aerospace, oil and gas, and mining industries. Business always meant caring for the environment. One of the mines he developed was recognized as a “model mine” by the U.S. Bureau of Lands and Management and it won various environmental awards.

In 1986, Mr. Fitzpatrick turned his attention to agriculture as he launched CedarCreek Estate Winery and pioneered planting vinifera grapes to produce premium wines. He remains the proprietor of the winery and is chairman of Greata Ranch.

As a senator from 1998 to 2008, Mr. Fitzpatrick's work helped provide federal funding for projects including women's shelters and detox centres. He supported the Westbank First Nations Self Government Agreement and the First Nations Fiscal Agreement.

He has served on numerous boards and societies and has received awards such as the Confederation Medal, the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal, the Freedom of the Town of Oliver, the Freedom of the City of Kelowna and Westbank First Nation Recognition.

Robert E. W. Hancock, O.C. – Vancouver

Dr. Robert Hancock is a leader in Canadian health research and a pioneer in microbiology. He has done valuable work relating to the prevention and treatment of infections and has made seminal discoveries in the area of antibiotics and their interaction with bacterial cells.

Dr. Hancock's innovative research has increased our understanding of how antibiotics affect bacteria – in the process developing antibiotics and immune system modulators with the potential to be the first novel classes of antimicrobials to be developed in 40 years. His work is directly improving the health of British Columbians and people worldwide.

Dr. Hancock is a professor of microbiology and immunology at UBC. During his thirty years at the university, he established the Centre for Microbial Diseases and Immunity Research and was a co-founder of two B.C. biotechnology companies and the innovative B.C. Centre for Drug Research and Development.

In addition to a wide array of other honours, he has won the Michael Smith Prize as Canada's Health Researcher of the Year, and the Killam Prize of the Canada Council. He was awarded the Order of Canada in 2001.

Dr. Michael R. Hayden – Vancouver

Dr. Michael Hayden is a world-renowned geneticist based in British Columbia who has used his scientific discoveries and talents to benefit humanity. He has made outstanding contributions in the areas of genetics, Huntington's and other neurodegenerative diseases.

A Killam Professor of Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia and Canada Research Chair in Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine, Dr. Hayden together with his colleagues identified seven causal genes for disabling and devastating diseases. He is the most cited author in the world of Huntington's disease.

In 2008 Dr. Hayden was named Canada's Health Researcher of the Year by the Canada Institutes for Health Research.

As director of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, Dr. Hayden has built a leading centre for genetics research in Canada. Dr. Hayden has also co-founded three biotech companies, helping to translate discoveries in the lab to products and services for patients.

He also plays a key role in communication around genetics, genomics and the public. He is frequently called upon to provide important advice to various levels of government.

Outside of the laboratory and classroom, Dr. Hayden founded the first summer camp for Huntington disease patients in North America, which has been operating since 1984. He is working with many people in our community to help develop a youth centre for disenfranchised young women with AIDS in Masiphumelele Township, Cape Town, South Africa.

Clarence Thomas (Manny) Jules – Kamloops

Clarence Thomas Jules is a First Nations role model who has played an instrumental role in leading change for First Nations people over the last four decades.

For 16 years, first as councillor and then chief of the Kamloops Indian Band, Mr. Jules spearheaded initiatives such as co-founding the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council and repatriating over 18,200 hectares (45,000 acres) of Kamloops Indian Band reserve lands.

Mr. Jules was also instrumental in the federal government's decision to recognize First Nation jurisdiction over property taxation on reserve lands. He subsequently helped implement this change as chair of the Indian Taxation Advisory Board and in 2006 as chief commissioner of the First Nations Tax Commission.

Mr. Jules was a member of the Auditor General's Panel of Aboriginal Issues, Assembly of First Nations' Chiefs Committee on Fiscal Relations, the National Aboriginal Financing Task Force and the Assembly of First Nations' Chiefs on Claims.

Mr. Jules has received honorary doctorates from UBC and Thompson Rivers University, and is the recipient of a number of national awards.

Dolores Kirkwood – New Westminster

For nearly 62 years, Ms. Dolores Kirkwood has been fostering a love of dance among the children of British Columbia.

A teacher, choreographer and adjudicator, she has influenced thousands of people as one of western Canada's foremost experts on ballet and musical theatre. Ms Kirkwood's life's work has enriched British Columbia and brought our province credit around the world.

Since the age of 14 when she began teaching dance, Ms Kirkwood has been an actor, singer and dancer and has performed professionally for many years. She is best known as a teacher, and for 21 years, she has been artistic director of the Royal City Youth Ballet Company.

Ms Kirkwood has given of her time assisting with musical productions at high schools, as well as community theatre groups. Her work at Burnaby South High School and Terry Fox Senior Secondary inspired many other schools to take up musical productions. She recently has been placed on the “Wall of Fame” at the Terry Fox school. Many of her former students have gone on to study at New York’s famous Julliard School, and some have danced for the National Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, and the Stuttgart Ballet.

Ms. Kirkwood has been honoured as New Westminster’s Citizen of the Year, and in 1996 was admitted to the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame.

Brandt Louie – Burnaby

A widely respected leader in business and philanthropy, Mr. Louie is an individual who has woven into his business affairs a vision for exemplary customer service, fairness, creativity and innovation.

As president and chief executive officer of HY Louie Company Limited, and chairman of London Drugs Limited, Mr. Louie has brought continued success to both of the firms he has led during his more than 35 years in business.

He has provided widespread philanthropic support in the fields of health and wellness, medical research, education and the arts. Mr. Louie personally leads the London Drugs Foundation, which oversees the company's corporate charity contributions.

Simon Fraser University has been a major beneficiary of Mr. Louie's generosity, where he has made significant donations to endowments in support of student scholarships and has funded many additional education and research initiatives. In 2005, Mr. Louie was conferred with an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree by Simon Fraser University.

He is a director of the Royal Bank of Canada, governor of the Vancouver Board of Trade, trustee of the Fraser Institute, director at the Gairdner Foundation, a national trustee of the Neuroscience Canada Foundation, and has for 15 years been the co-chair of the Variety Club’s Cash for Kid's program.

Mr. Louie has received a lifetime achievement award from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of B.C. as well as the Queen Elizabeth the Second Golden Jubilee Medal, the Medal of Merit from the International Association of Lions Club, along with numerous other awards from business and community service groups.

He is currently serving a second term as chancellor of Simon Fraser University.

Dr. Ray Markham – Valemount

Dr. Ray Markham is a unique physician and one that is well recognized as a valuable part of his hometown of Valemount and in the surrounding small communities.

Dr. Markham is a career rural doctor who steadfastly, unwaveringly and intentionally serves the rural community despite many challenges faced by rural medical care givers.

He has found ways to make it work – he championed computerized medical records and opened the clinic in the evening for working people. He spearheaded a proposal for a local rehabilitation centre.

Dr. Markham has performed surgery after the electricity went out, and during his lunch hour. He calls patients at home to make sure they're okay. He has helped them move furniture. He provides palliative care so people can die at home. He makes house calls.

His patients commonly refer to his friendly hand-shake, and the fact they never feel rushed in his presence.

Born and educated in Africa, he practiced in South Africa, Newfoundland and with the British Army in such places as Antarctica and Kenya. He earned the Sydney Herbert Medal and Prize for achievement in post-graduate medical officers training, and the Queen Mother Prize for GP vocational training.

Roy Akira Miki, C.M. – Burnaby

Dr. Roy Miki is a distinguished scholar and teacher, one of Canada's finest poets and authors, and a passionate advocate for social justice.

Born on a sugar beet farm in Manitoba, where his Japanese Canadian parents were interned during the Second World War, Dr. Miki's early experiences with discrimination fuelled his drive to express his ideas and emotions. As a writer, much of his work explores the complex issues of internment: history, memory, identity, displacement, race and redress.

Dr. Miki's willingness to write and speak out against injustice played a significant part in the success of the Japanese Canadian redress movement. His human rights activism has helped change the shape of Canadian society.

He has authored or edited an impressive range of books, essays, papers and anthologies, many of which have received critical acclaim. A 2002 collection of his poems, "Surrender", received the Governor General's Award for Poetry.

Dr. Miki's writing and voluntary contributions were recognized in 2006 with the Order of Canada and he has been awarded many distinguished prizes and honours including the Gandhi Peace Award.

Dr. Linda Warren – Vancouver

Serving British Columbia with excellence as a radiologist, Dr. Linda Warren has distinguished herself as one of the driving forces behind the founding and continued excellence of the Screening Mammography Program of B.C.

Dr. Warren's leadership resulted in a world-class screening program – North America's first – which has since served as a model for jurisdictions around the world.

Dr. Warren worked hard to promote the concept of screening and to encourage other jurisdictions to follow British Columbia's lead.

Working today as B.C.'s chief provincial screening radiologist, Dr. Warren contributes to the ongoing administration of the program, and to province-wide education on breast cancer screening. She sits on every committee of the program and continues to play a key role in the program's quality assurance. Her personal efforts have in no small way contributed to British Columbia's breast cancer mortality becoming the lowest in Canada.

Dr. Warren is a clinical professor in the Department of Radiology at the University of British Columbia. In this role, she has been responsible for training most of the radiologist's currently practicing radiology in the province.

-30-

Information about the Order of British Columbia, and previous recipients, is available at <http://www.protocol.gov.bc.ca/protocol/prgs/obc/obc.htm>

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