



Red Deer & District
Community Foundation
7th Annual



RED DEER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
all for community.

WOMEN
OF
EXCELLENCE

JUNE 10, 2014

Awards Gala

PRESENTING SPONSOR

RedDeerAdvocate

RED DEER & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Thank You...

The planning and implementation of a worthwhile and valuable initiative required vision and commitment – and the desire to ensure an unforgettable experience for everyone involved! The response we received as we began planning our seventh Annual Women of Excellence program was overwhelming, and the work that has taken place is, once again, simply amazing!

Thank you to all of the volunteers and sponsors who supported the Women of Excellence awards and gala – quite simply, we could not have done it without each and every one of you. What would the awards and gala be without our community? Thank you for nominating your Women of Excellence candidate, thank you for attending our gala, and thank you for joining the Red Deer & District Community Foundation Board of Directors and staff in congratulating each and every Women of Excellence who is being recognized this evening.

The Red Deer & District Community Foundation's goals focus on enhancing the quality of life of the entire community – from children to seniors, by working with organizations in human services, to the environment, to arts, culture, recreation and healthy lifestyles. We work with individuals to help them realize their charitable giving objectives and assist local organization in the development of programs and services that meet the needs, desires and passions of an ever changing community.

We sincerely welcome you and appreciate your support of the Awards and Gala, and look forward to your continuing support of the Red Deer & District Community Foundation as we work with you to create the best community for all.



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PRESENTING SPONSOR

RedDeerAdvocate

The Red Deer Advocate is proud to once again be the presenting sponsor of the Women of Excellence awards.

The nominees this year and over the past 6 years, have set a shining example of vision. Their leadership, compassion and talents make Central Alberta a wonderful place to live, play and do business. They inspire us and show the pathway for the next generation of leaders.

The Women of Excellence has become a prominent event in our community that validates the distinction of these nominees.

Congratulations to this year's nominees and many thanks to the organizers and volunteers for creating a wonderful evening.



FRED GORMAN

Publisher, Red Deer Advocate

Committee Members

Dawna Morey, Chair

Donna Carter

Judy Clark

Ceara Crawford

Barb Cross

Lexie Engel

Anjali Evanoff

Nancy Horkoff

Karin Richarson-Mackenzie

Robin McKay

Joanne Packham

Carey Walkey

Wanda Zemlak

Kristine Bugayong

Lori Hamilton

*Thank you to Soroptimist International of
Central Alberta for your support!*

*It takes many volunteers to plan an event of this caliber.
If we have missed anyone, please accept our apologies
and know that your time and input has been greatly
appreciated!*

OUR HOST FOR THE EVENING



Born in the East but loving the West! After graduating with a degree in Psychology and English, Meg Tucker knew she needed to be in Entertainment. After a stint of Second City Improv in Toronto and stand up comedy in NYC, her love of pop culture (some would call it an obsession) landed her a home in broadcasting 10 years ago in Toronto where she was the Entertainment Correspondent at CHUM-FM with the Roger, Rick and Marilyn Show. After 3 years and many interviews later, she made the leap west to Calgary where she became co-host of the Energy 101.5 Morning Show. With radio comes change – the most recent brings her to Red Deer to keep Vinnie Taylor in line on River Mornings on 100.7fm The River. Whether it's Bachelor, Backstreet Boys, or Bieber – Meg is on it!

Program

*Champagne Reception 5:30 pm
Seating 6:00 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm
Sheraton Red Deer*

Menu

*Roasted Beet Salad
Pine Nuts, Shallots, Goats Cheese, Romaine Spear
Sherry Vinaigrette*

*Honey Rosemary Roasted Alberta Pork Loin
Apple and Jicama Slaw, Cauliflower Potato Puree
Tarragon Jus*

*Chocolate Dome
Hazelnut Ganache
Raspberry Coulis*

PURSES FOR A PURPOSE SILENT AUCTION

*Thank you to the following Canadian women celebrities
Who have graciously donated their purses for our
Purses for a Purpose Silent Auction:*

- Cheryl Bernard*
- Randi Boulton*
- Jacqueline Dallas*
- Arlene Dickinson*
- Judy Dreesen*
- Dawna Friesen*
- Tera Lee Flaman*
- Tanya Glencross*
- Mary Anne Jablonski*
- Lynne Mulder*
- Danielle Smith*
- Kim Trynacity*
- Meg Tucker*
- Tara Veer*
- Bev Wood*
- Michelle Wright*
- Dianne Wyntjes*

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Honors a woman, who for many years of her life, has been a role model, mentor and/or advocate for positive change. The recipient has been a Woman of Excellence who is dedicated to improving the lives of others throughout their lives – in their work, their homes, and their community activities. She has made a profound difference in the lives of those around her.



Eileen Carol Cole

Eileen came from a family that believed community involvement was important, and volunteering has always been the “natural” thing to do, whether organizing the Ladies luncheon for the Lending Cupboard, teaching Sunday School, dancing at seniors lodges, working political campaigns, or volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House Charity Bonspiel, Eileen’s interests are wide, varied and lengthy. Following her retirement from owning a successful small business called Children’s Corner, Eileen accepted a 16 month full-time volunteer position as Coordinator of the Firehall Fun Factory which was an integral part of the \$2.5M Literacy & Legacy campaign for the Children’s Library. Eileen’s next challenge was to organize Red Deer’s very first Festival of Trees on a zero budget! She continued organizing this event for the next eight years. Twenty years later, the Festival has raised nearly \$10.8M for healthcare programs and equipment for the Red Deer Regional Hospital Foundation. For the next three years, Eileen was the Health Region Foundation liaison for the Healing and Hope Campaign which raised \$2.5M to fund the Interfaith Chapel and meditative garden at the Red Deer Regional Hospital. Eileen is a master organizer. Eileen leaves a lasting legacy with her extensive leadership and support of our community.

ATHLETICS, RECREATION AND FITNESS

WE participate, coach and mentor, serving as an inspiration to others through our example and accomplishments, thereby enhancing the physical well-being of the residents of Red Deer and Central Alberta.

The Consider it Done Team



Melanie Tuck

Melanie's passion for her career and helping her clients will be the first thing you notice when you meet her. Every day, she learns and continues to develop and share her skills and knowledge with her clients, as a mentor to students and fellow therapists. Since 1989, she has worked high level sports including; Western Hockey League, Division 1 Rugby, Junior & Senior Men's football. She has also treated many professional athletes. She is also a community leader in concussion awareness and treatment, working with the latest technology and research. A ground breaking female trainer in hockey, she opened doors for other female trainers, as the first female trainer in the Western Hockey League. She spent 10 years as a Founding Director with the Alberta Sport Development Centre/Central. Melanie opened Collegiate Sports Medicine in 2003, due to a tremendous need in the region to assist high level athletes.

BUSINESS AND THE PROFESSIONS

WE are acknowledged in their field for leadership and consistent commitment to excellence. WE leverage their achievements and management skills to facilitate change and create opportunities in either the for-profit and non-for-profit sectors. WE demonstrate a respect for and engagement with her community, clients/stakeholders and colleagues.



JOHNSTON
MING
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Gwendolyn Elizabeth Clarke

Gwen moved to Central Alberta in 1997 and has worked at Nova Chemicals Joffre Petrochemical Site for 17 years. She is married to Wayne Clarke and a mother of two children, Bobby and Katie. Gwen holds a Bachelor of Communications degree and is currently a communications consultant dealing with internal and external communications and community relations for Nova Chemicals Joffre Site operations. For more than 15 years, Gwen has served and continues to serve the United Way fund raising campaign in many capacities from Community Impact Council to campaign cabinet. Gwen has her fingers in many other initiatives in our community, and believes strongly in the value of building relationships and allowing everyone the opportunity to be all they can be. She believes that growing young philanthropists is not just a desire, it is a responsibility.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

WE have identified a local community need or issue and have provided effective initiative to inspire and pioneer meaningful change. WE are recognized as a source of strength and heart in their community, and harnesses the time, talent and capacity of others.

ATCO Gas



Valdene Callin

Valdene is a vivacious volunteer who believes in giving to the community that has given so much to her. She has tirelessly volunteered for the Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools, Red Deer Public Library, Red Deer Childcare Society and United Way of Central Alberta. She was employed for 13 years by Family Services of Central Alberta as their Manager of Community Relations. She now works for EQUUS, the largest member owned utility company in Canada, as their Marketing and Communications Coordinator. Valdene has built bridges in the community to ensure that the citizens of Red Deer have the opportunity for the best life possible. She is currently volunteering on the Canada Winter Games 2019 Bid Committee. She loves to laugh, live life to the fullest and loves all that Red Deer has to offer.

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ATCO Gas



Delta Rempel

Family, community and faith have been guiding rods in Delta's life with such an extensive list of accomplishment over the length of her life. Delta grew up on a farm outside Consul, Saskatchewan. Some of her most treasured memories are her days on the farm which she considers to be the most important in shaping her life. In 1967, she and her husband Wayne moved to Red Deer. When Wayne was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Delta sought employment to supplement the family income and support the activities of four young children. She started working for the United Way in 1976 and continued until June 1997. Delta's presence has also been felt at her church, where she serves on several councils and committees. The congregation became Delta's second family and has been a source of support. Delta's volunteerism continues to have extensive reach into the community of Red Deer. She is the Board Chair for Golden Circle Senior Resource Centre; participates in the Healthy Families Program, which she initiated in 1998 and the Alberta Generations Project.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

WE are celebrated for outstanding achievement in practice, development and/or research in the educational system, employee development, community education or alternative programs.



when you get there you understand



Helen Sommer-Longshore

Helen is a gracious compassionate woman, who always reaches out to serve others. Her gentle and kind nature, make others feel comfortable around her. Helen is a qualified teacher with more than 35 years experience in Central Alberta. She has assisted immigrants and refugees at Central Alberta Refugee Effort (C.A.R.E) for over 25 of those teaching years through English as a Second Language (ESL) and as a language assessor. She also spent several years teaching in the public school system. Because of her significant contributions to the field of ESL in Alberta, she received the Dawn Seabrook de Vargas Memorial Fellowship Award in 2010. Her positive and helpful attitude make immigrants and refugees, new to Central Alberta feel welcome. Helen's display of affection and compassion is evident in both her professional and personal life.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WE have a solid vision of the future, and possess creativity and ingenuity that separates us from our peers. WE have taken an innovative approach to solving a problem, filling a need or breaking into a new market. WE have made sacrifices and risked a great deal to successfully manage, launch or revive a business, product service or community organization.

MNP
LLP



Barbara Jean Tumanut

Born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, BJ moved to Edmonton in 1997, where she enjoyed a successful career in fine wine as a buyer, seller and educator. In 2002, BJ swapped her wine glasses for fine chocolate and managed the popular Chocolates by Bernard Callebaut stores in Edmonton. Chocolate was a great fit for her. In January 2011, BJ moved to Red Deer to purchase and operate the local Chocolates by Bernard Callebaut business. She feels fortunate for the opportunities her life in Red Deer has given her. She has grown as a person, businesswoman and community builder. BJ gives back to our community as a volunteer board member with Rotary Red Deer Sunrise Club and the Red Deer Chamber of Commerce. She also works to raise funds and awareness for local organizations such as the Red Deer Regional Health Foundation, Canadian Cancer Society, United Way of Central Alberta and the Ronald McDonald House.

ENVIRONMENT

WE are leaders in our philosophies, and demonstrate commitment to environment protection, conservation and sustainability.



Joanne Temple

Joanne has worked as an Environmental Educator in Alberta for the last 20 years. She is a native Albertan with a background in the Biological Sciences, growing up and raising her family in the Calgary area. She developed the educational programs still being used today for the Glenmore Park Weaselhead Preservation Society. In 2006, she and her husband moved to Lacombe where she took a few years off to go back to school at Olds College, upgrading her education to include landscape design where she focused on best management practices for water conservation. In 2012, she became the outreach coordinator for the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, developing educational programs for schools, relating to the Alberta curriculum and for public awareness and engagement as well as stewardship.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

WE have experience outstanding achievement in promotion, education and/or involvement in the physical emotional and/or spiritual health and well-being of others.



**Making
Progress
Happen**



Dr. Jennifer Anne Bestard

Born and raised in Thorndale, Ontario on a dairy farm, Jennifer is the eldest daughter of Ted and Fran Bestard. After completing high school, she began her long and very successful journey to a career in medicine. Her Studies took her to the Universities of Western Ontario, Toronto, McMaster University, University of Alberta and University of Calgary. She is the first Canadian neurologist to complete a Fellowship in neuropathic pain and headache at the University of Alberta. Jennifer moved to Red Deer in 2009 and commenced her own neurology practice where she continues to practice medicine, deliver seminars/ lectures and is an active participant in her community. She was the first physician in Red Deer to implement new Health Canada Botox Guidelines in the treatment of chronic headache pain, demonstrating cutting edge treatment of this debilitating condition. She is a wife and the mother of two beautiful little girls. Jennifer enjoys a number of fitness activities, including competitive marathon, and other hobbies.

HUMAN SERVICES

WE may work or volunteer in the for-profit or not-for-profit sectors and are acknowledged in their field for leadership, compassion and practice in human service programs and/or organizations within the community.

**Hon. Cal Dallas,
Minister of International and
Intergovernmental Relations,
MLA Red Deer South**
**Mary Anne Jablonski, MLA
Red Deer North**



Rubyann Rice

Rubyann is the Provincial Executive Director of the Schizophrenia Society of Alberta (SSA). Rubyann earned a Master of Educational Psychology from the University of Alberta and has more than twenty years of experience in the human services field. Fifteen of those twenty years have been in a senior leadership role with non profit and government organizations. Managing a provincial organization comprised of six branches and three housing projects across Alberta keeps Rubyann at the heart of current mental health issues. Rubyann has been acknowledged for her relentless work providing exceptional housing and support programs to those living with severe mental illness. Rubyann was recently selected as a finalist in Homeward Trust's ROOPH Awards, acknowledging individuals committed to ending homelessness. As a dedicated advocate and educator, Rubyann values a community that demonstrates compassion and respect to all.

YOUNG WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE

WE are young (under age 25) and are respected for achievements and commitments to education and lifelong learning; work or career; and/or community. WE are a positive influence on our peers.



Stantec



Madeleine Schultz

During her time at Notre Dame High School in Red Deer, Madeleine maintained honor roll standing while being extensively involved both in school and community activities. She was Vice President of Student Council, founded the first Red Deer High School "Students Against Drinking and Driving" Chapter; was the Marketing & Sponsorship Chair of the 2011 Alberta Student Leadership Conference; an active member of Youth Voice Red Deer, and held various other committee and volunteer positions. Madeleine, now 21, is currently studying at the University of Calgary Haskayne School of Business. Along with her full time studies, she is working for Haskayne Alumni Relations and is highly involved on campus. She is the secretary of the University of Calgary Rotaract and Co-Director of a new Enactus Calgary project, which focuses on supporting women who are new to Canada. She is also involved with Global Brigades, and will take part in a Business and Microfinance contingent to rural Honduras this summer.

Who is a

WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE?

She provides inspiration and motivation to others as a mentor or role model

She demonstrates vision, innovation or creativity and the courage to take risks

She demonstrates excellence in the category in which she is nominated

She enriches and improves the quality of life for herself, family and others

She has overcome personal or societal barriers to achieve her goals

She shows a significant commitment to society in her own field and beyond

She promotes and supports improved opportunities and choices for women and girls in her community

She inspires and motivates other women and girls as a mentor or role model

She encourages positive changes in society through the impact of her activities, particularly for women and girls





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WHAT WE DO FOR RED DEER AND CENTRAL ALBERTA:

Our mission is a bold one: to act as a community catalyst and grow a legacy which strengthens the quality of life in Red Deer and Central Alberta. As the only “endowed” foundation in Central Alberta, we take a strategic vision of our community in understanding its needs. An endowment is a pool of permanently invested funds – only the income/interest is spent, to provide much needed resources to local charities in our community.

OUR MANDATE IS TO BUILD COMMUNITY VITALITY. WE DO IT BY:

- *Working with donors to build funds that match their interests and concerns.*
- *Granting funds to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.*
- *Talking the long term view for our communities, identifying long term needs and opportunities and investing in sustainable solutions.*

GET INVOLVED WITH US:

Red Deer & District Community Foundation

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Red Deer, Alberta T4N 1S6

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Fax: (403) 341-4177

Email: info@rddcf.ca

Website: www.reddeeranddistrictcommunityfoundation.ca

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FRIENDS OF THE WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE

- 53rd Street Music
- Airport Angus
- Alberta Sports Hall of
Fame and Museum
- Alberta Prairie Railway
- Bobtail Nursery
- Body Basics
- Body Treats
- Bower Place Shopping
Centre
- Breathing Room Yoga
Studio
- Central Alberta Co-op
- Clean 2 Pristine Central AB
Cleaning
- Collicutt Centre
- Curves
- Delta Kananaskis Lodge
- Distinctly Kelowna Tours
- Dots Discount Designer
Wear
- Ducks Unlimited
- Earls Restaurant
- Energy Effects
- Epicure Selections - Tracey
McBeth-Kachor
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- Eye Care Centre
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- Goodyear Canada
- Heritage Ranch
- Home Depot
- iHotel Solace Spa and Salon
- La Casa Pergola
- Manteo Resort Waterfront
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- Martini Rosé by Bacardi
Canada
- Mary Kay Products by
Wanda Zemplak
- Mitchell & Jewell
- Muse Clothing
- Northwest Airlines
- One Eleven Grill
- Parkland Garden Centre
- Parkland Mall
- Party Lite
- Pearson's Berry Farm
- Pink Paire Red Deer
- Proform Precast Products
Inc.
- RCMP
- Red Deer County
- Red Deer Discount Golf
Centre
- Red Stone Grill & Wine Bar
- River Bend Golf &
Recreation Area
- Safari Spa & Salon
- Sobey's Gaetz South
- Soroptomist International
of Central Alberta
- Talk of The Town
- The Bra Lounge
- The Canadian Brewhouse
- The Framing Nook
- The Green Apple
- The Premium Beer
Company
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- Willson AV
- Yard Yoga Alliance

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The Consider it Done Team

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