

## BACKGROUND: 2013 Recipients of Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

### Dr. David Buettner (Prince Albert)

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Dr. David Buettner has provided outstanding contributions provincially and nationally to both his community and profession. Serving as president of the Saskatchewan German Council, he was the driving force behind promoting the culture of the Germanic countries. As founding member of the Prince Albert German Club Waldhorn, he championed the development of the German language school, the choir and the social club. Selflessly providing volunteer service to his profession, his commitment and dedication to the development of the standards for the Doctor of Chiropractic programs in Canada will impact the education of future generations and improve the quality of care. His many other achievements include:

- Vice President, Prince Albert Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- Board Member, Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority
- Board Member, Victoria Hospital
- President, Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan
- Member, Joint Professional Review Committee, Medical Care Insurance Commission and the Chiropractors' Association
- Member, Canadian Chiropractic Association Board of Governors
- Member, Council, Chiropractic Education Canada
- Member, Chiropractic Accreditation Committee Canada
- Member, Saskatchewan Northern Trappers Association, serving as councillor of the northern fur conservation area "P20"
- Member, St. Mark's Catholic Church and served as Parish Council member
- Volunteer, Prince Albert Community Players
- Volunteer, various youth sports organizations in Prince Albert
- Recipient: Saskatchewan Centennial Leadership Award, 2005, and a Life Member, Chiropractors of Association of Saskatchewan

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### **Barb L. Butler (Regina)**

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A survivor of an acquired brain injury, Barb Butler's perseverance has impacted both survivors and caregivers. She was the first survivor to be elected president of the board of directors for the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association, and currently serves as the president of the Brain Injury Association Canada. An accomplished educator, she served as president of the Wilfred Hunt Home and School Association and the Jack McKenzie Parents Advisory Committee. Her connection with the community and those she serves both on the provincial and national level has been a source of hope and inspiration. Other contributions include:

- Chair, Brain Injury Association of Canada (BIAC) National Conference
- Editor, *Impact* newsletter, Brain Injury Association of Canada (BIAC)
- Organized support groups, education and fundraising events
- Organized weekly meetings of the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association Support Chapter
- Organized and initiated, Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association Positive STEPS Walk-a-thon
- Organized functions, sport teams and fundraising
- Led a Regina support group as a Self-Help/Mutual Aid Model
- Volunteer, Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Regina; instrumental in the development of the Family Resource Centre
- Canvasses for Canadian Cancer Society and the Heart and Stroke Fund
- Author of the book "Accidental Realities" (unpublished)
- Recipient: Volunteer of the Year Award, Brain Injury Association of Canada, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2013; Distinguished Volunteer of the Year, City of Regina, 2002

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### **T. Morley Gusway (Regina)**

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Prominent Regina businessman and sportsman, Morley Gusway has worked with countless alcoholics, introducing them to Alcoholics Anonymous, assisting them to reform and giving them a fresh start. Co-founder of the Gusway Gerry House, he sponsored hundreds of alcoholics on their path to being saved. He provided meals, money or a place to sleep and in some instances provided employment to those in need. He has served his community and province in the following ways:

- Vice Chair and member, Saskatchewan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (SADAC)
- Co-owner, Regina Pats Hockey Club
- Member, board of directors, White Spruce Youth Treatment Centre
- Member, Regina Optimist Club, playing a major part in building the Optimist Arena and the Optimist Baseball Park
- Donated the basement of the Regina Rent-It Centre for the Regina Food Bank
- Donated autographed hockey sticks, doughnuts and popcorn to underprivileged children
- Instrumental in starting Alcohol Anonymous meetings at the Indian Métis Christian Fellowship
- Presenter on alcoholism and substance abuse nationally, including presentations to high school students
- Personal contribution to a video on alcoholism produced by CKCK-TV bringing awareness to the disease and speaking to the stigma attached and the isolation of those affected
- Recipient: Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan; Gusway Street named in his honour; Life Member, Optimist Club

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### Maisie Hanna (Regina)

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Believing in the value of traditional arts, Maisie Hanna, formerly of Meyronne, has dedicated more than 60 years of service with the goal of improving the well-being of rural Saskatchewan women. Her passion for fibre arts, her love of literacy and her determination to raise money for Third World projects has connected women of all ages and backgrounds and promoted Saskatchewan's history. She served as president of the Saskatchewan Women's Institute, Winnabel Branch and inspired them to purchase two water pumps, a treadle sewing machine and a bicycle for a Zimbabwe village; she crocheted a Victory Shawl for jailed women in South Korea, and made a mascot encouraging students to fundraise for the Clean Water Project. Through her doll collection she fundraised for the *Save the Sight for Children*. Her accomplishments include:

- President, Vice President, Secretary, Legislation and Citizenship Convenor, Branch Delegate at local and provincial levels of the Saskatchewan Women's Institutes, Winnabel Branch and the Homemakers' Clubs of Saskatchewan, Meyronne Branch
- Executive and Board Member, Woodrow United Church of Canada, teaching Sunday School, leading the Explorers and Canadian Girls in Training (CGIT) groups, led camps at Camp Woodboia and Campernaum
- Representative, Presbytery and Saskatchewan Conference meetings, United Church of Canada
- Member, Steering Committee, Network of Older Women, contributing to the resource manuals for being a care-giver, poverty, widowhood and accessing medical care
- Member, Steering Committee, Creating Prairie Cronies
- Member XYZ Club, encouraging creativity in senior citizens and persons with disabilities
- Member, Steering Committee, Intercultural Grandmothers Uniting and Grandmothers in Schools, a cross-cultural intergenerational literacy project with Regina Public Schools
- Peer tutor in the Second Chance for Seniors Program and the Grandmothers' English Language Literacy Program
- Fostered friendship and understanding among non-aboriginal, First Nations and Métis women
- Recipient: Saskatchewan Women's Institute Education Award, 1984; Saskatchewan Women's Institutes Scholarship, 1986; Certificate of Merit, Saskatchewan Women's Institutes, 1985 and 1991; Certificate of Appreciation, Second Chance for Seniors Peer Tutoring, University of Regina, 2001; Hazel Styles Scholarship, Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, 1984 and 1986 and received an honourable mention from the Associated Country Women of the World Conference, Australia for her apple-head farmer doll

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### **Betty McDougall (Swift Current)**

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Retired educator, Betty McDougall of Swift Current, has reached out to her community and province in diverse areas and interests. She has exemplified a level of commitment to community leadership that serves as a model for others. Whether it is her involvement as chair of the *Write-Out Loud*, Lyric Theatre; as vice president of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Swift Current Branch; as member of the Elderhostel Program at Cypress Hill Regional College; as president of the Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages; or as an executive board member of the Kiwanis Club of Swift Current, she is the catalyst that sees the need, designs the program, establishes the committee, finds the volunteers and directs the future association or program. Her service to her community includes:

- First female councillor, Town of Qu'Appelle, responsible for the Recreation and Parks Department; representative, regional Nursing Home Board; member, Planning Committee for the Town of Qu'Appelle's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration
- Founding member, Swift Current Community Youth Initiative
- Founding member, Swift Current Chapter, KidSport
- Chair, Swift Current Band Auxiliary
- Chair, Doc's Town Heritage Village Committee, Swift Current Agricultural and Exhibition Association
- Chair, Canadian Tire JumpStart Program
- Chair, Frontier City Investments, Community Bond Pool
- Vice President, Saskatchewan History and Folklore Society, Inc.
- Treasurer, Southwest Ukrainian Cultural Council; involved in the establishment of the Ukrainian Language School
- Secretary, member, Southwest Council on Aging
- Board Member, Swift Current Tourism Committee
- Board Member, Southwest Cultural Development Group
- Executive member, Boy Scouts and Brownies
- Executive member, Swift Current Evening Ladies Curling Club; and member of the Scott Tournament of Hearts organizational committee
- Executive member, Swift Current Multicultural Council
- Recipient: Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal; Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal; Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan; 2011 Volunteer of the Year, Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association; 1996 Volunteer of the Year, Saskatchewan Council of Cultural Organizations; and the Mel Osborne Fellowship, Kiwanis Club of Swift Current

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### Ted Merriman (Saskatoon)

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Saskatoon businessman Ted Merriman's sense of moral purpose rooted in social justice was the seed that flourished as he helped those who were less fortunate. As Founding Member of Care and Share Saskatoon, he initiated and has sustained more than 15 recreational and social programs for students in community schools and for under-privileged and at-risk families. He established the Dignity Fund whereby finances were made available to buy items some people take for granted. He served a hot Christmas lunch to 250 children at an inner city school. Impressed with the reaction he received, he approached the Canadian Progress Club and the following year 5,000 kids received a hot meal. His service to his province includes:

- Past President, Saskatoon Downtown Canadian Progress Club
- Founding Member, Farm in the Dell
- Board Member, Catholic Family Services
- Board Member, Big Brothers
- Board Member, Ability in Me
- Expanded the Holiday Lunch program to include chefs in hotels, golf clubs and other caterers all cooking a full turkey dinner and delivering it to the schools by First Student Bus with business mentors serving the meal
- Supported sporting activities and offered lice shampoo programs at inner city schools
- Partnered with Scholastic Books and put thousands of books into inner city schools
- Formed partnerships with local businesses to mentor school staff
- Former partnership with an office supply company to provide school supplies to 17 schools twice a year
- Instrumental in initiating soccer, yoga, and babysitting certification programs
- Recipient: Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal; Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal; Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan; Saskatoon Citizen of the Year, 2000-2001; Nissan Award for Big Brother of the Year Saskatchewan/Manitoba Region; Saskatoon Big Brother of the Year, B'Nai Brith "We're Proud of You" Award; Progression of the Year Award; Educator of Distinction Award, Saskatoon Board of Education

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### Margaret Sandison (Regina)

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Margaret Sandison has been an active member of Skate Canada – Saskatchewan for more than 60 years and continues to this day to contribute at provincial events. As Canada's representative at the international level for more than 25 years, she served as judge, technical representative, official and team leader. She has been a mentor to many officials. She is one of Saskatchewan's 19 Gold Level Judges in all disciplines. Both founder and co-ordinator of a skating program developed for persons with intellectual disabilities, she also gives generously of her time to her church, the Regina General Hospital Auxiliary and Gift Shop, Government House and Souls Harbour Mission. Her contributions to the province and Canada include:

- Co-Chair, Skate Canada and the Canadian Figure Skating Championships held in Regina
- Co-Chair, Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Western Canada Games
- Chair, Regina Sparkles (Synchronized Skating Team)
- Facilities Chair and Vice Chair, Canadian Precision Skating Championships, 1992
- Technical Representative for 2013 Skate Canada, Saskatchewan Sectionals
- Technical Representative/Judge/Referee for most provincial competitions since 1960
- Board Member, Western Section of the Canadian Figure Skating Association
- Board Member and Treasurer, Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame and Museum
- Special Advisor to Chair, 1984 Canadian Figure Skating Championships in Regina
- Member of the Wascana Winter Club, now Skate Canada, since 1938
- Member, Bid Committee, Canada Games, 1974
- Volunteer, 1995 Grey Cup
- Volunteer, Regina Sports Hall Fame and Museum
- Volunteer, Public Relations, Regina Exhibition Fashion Show
- Served as Judge, Team Lead for Skate Canada internationally in France, Germany, East Berlin, Netherlands, Yugoslavia, Soviet Union (Moscow), Austria, Czech Republic, Slovenia and the USA
- Promoted to Canadian Level Dance Judge, Canadian Level Singles Referee and to International Single and Pair Judge
- Inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame and Museum as a Builder
- Inducted into the Regina Sports Hall of Fame and Museum as a Builder
- Recipient: City of Regina Volunteer Award; Heritage Award, Rotary Club; Sask Sport Volunteer of the Year Award; Royal Trust Achievement Awards and the Canadian Figure Skating Association, Saskatchewan Section, Volunteer Awards

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### Pansy Taylor (Moosomin)

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Former educator Pansy Taylor of Moosomin is best described as “Omnum dat” – she gives everything. Designer, planner, producer and fundraiser extraordinaire, she provides creativity to sustain community programs and infrastructure. She was instrumental in arranging fundraisers to preserve the 100 year old Moosomin Armoury, the pool and the band program. She goes above and beyond the role of substitute teacher, volunteering for extracurricular activities and helping students after hours with their studies. Her many accomplishments to her community include:

- Co-Chair, Band Association Community Calendar fundraiser
- Member, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala of the Moosomin Armoury
- Member, Moosomin Band Association
- Member, Moosomin Heritage Committee
- Member, committee for unveiling event honouring street naming two long term Moosomin physicians
- Instrumental in arranging an “open air band concert,” “Preserve the Pool” fundraiser and the designer, planner, producer and sales person in arranging for the “Moosomin Community Puzzle”
- Organized a special event to honour the local Community Band Director
- Volunteer, Terry Fox Run
- Volunteer, July 1<sup>st</sup> Celebration and Parade
- Volunteer, Special Olympics
- Volunteer, Moosomin Gymnastic and Figure Skating Clubs
- Volunteer, Moosomin and District Music Festival
- Volunteer for the demolition of the Southeast Integrated Care Facility salvaging bricks to be used for heritage (some 8,000 bricks were cleaned, stacked on pallets and stored for use in a heritage cairn)



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### Walter A. Thiessen (*posthumous*) (Saskatoon)

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Saskatoon musician and teacher Walter Thiessen spent over 60 years working with musical, cultural and heritage volunteer organizations. He served as president of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (Provincial and Saskatoon branch), of the Musical Art Club, and of Gustin/Trounce Heritage Committee Inc. With the latter organization, he played a central role in restoring the Dr. Lyell Gustin Residence, now a designated Provincial Heritage Property in Saskatoon. He led church music for decades as pianist/organist and choirmaster. Like his musical mentor, Lyell Gustin, Mr. Thiessen was an ardent supporter of young musicians, an advocate for culture and the arts, plus an inspiration to the community. His influence continues far and wide through many former students who have taken up professional music careers or who carry music with them as a lifetime gift. His contributions included:

- National, Regional, and Provincial Convenor of the Young Artist Series for the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations
- Creation and organization of the Lyell Gustin Memorial Piano Competition for advanced-level young pianists from across the province
- Establishment/distribution of scholarships, local and provincial, to music students on behalf of the Gustin/Trounce Heritage Committee
- Piano adjudication for the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association
- Performing recitals, solo and with other artists, for the Saskatchewan Arts Board
- Conducting annual Christmas carol concerts at First Mennonite Church, Saskatoon, and organizing mass choir festivals for the Saskatchewan Mennonite Church
- Serving on an editorial board to create and publish a unique and original German-language hymnbook
- Developing a Church Music Library that is publicly available
- Supporting Saskatoon musical organizations – symphony, opera and choirs – through attendance, engagement and contribution
- Assisting fellow teachers to prepare young musicians for examinations with the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto, and Trinity College of London, England
- Recipient: Lieutenant Governor's 'Celebration of the Arts' Pin for Volunteer Service in the Arts Community, 2005; Lifetime Achievement Award, Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers, Saskatoon, 2012; Lyell Gustin Centenary Award for Musical Leadership, Gustin/Trounce Heritage Committee, 2012