

Deryck THOMSON AWARD

About this Award

Named after one of SPARC BC's founding directors, the Deryck Thomson Award was established in 1991 by the SPARC BC Board of Directors to recognize individuals or organizations making a significant contribution to social planning and social justice in BC. This Award is given annually to individuals or organizations that share our values and commitment to working to build a just and healthy society for all.

Eligibility

Individuals or organizations to be considered for the Deryck Thomson Award include those who have contributed to:

- ◆ Building or enhancing community capacity and community well-being and supporting innovation contributing to positive change for people and communities;
- ◆ Advocating for equity, fairness, and dignity for all through inclusion, integrity and learning;
- ◆ Advancing policies or initiatives that integrate social, cultural economic, and environmental planning, decision-making and action;
- ◆ Advocating for improved social policies and programs;
- ◆ Ensuring that those who are most affected by decisions have a voice in determining and implementing policies and programs that impact them and their families;
- ◆ Raising public awareness and consciousness about the importance of social and community well-being.

“ We're engaged in a noble profession with a significant past and a challenging future. While forces and events may swirl about us, our objectives have been the same — to develop the human condition while protecting its weakest from harm. The ways in which we go about the task may differ, but the goal remains constant. ”

—Deryck Thomson

Past Organizational Awards

Recipients

2020/2021 Positive Living North Buckley Valley (PLN BV), Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Phoenix Choir Chamber, The Indian Residential School Survivor's Society (IRSSS) and A Way Home Kamloops (AWHK)

2019/2020 All Nations Driving Academy , Ocean Legacy Foundation and Unity Centre Association for Black Cultures (UCABC)

2018/2019 North Okanagan Community Chaplaincy, Port Alberni Shelter Farm Project and The Fort Nelson Aboriginal Friendship Society

2017/2018 Some Assembly Arts Society and the Roundhouse Youth Theatre Action Group (RHYTAG)

2016/2017 West Coast Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF)

2015/2016 The Cinderella Project

2014/2015 The Coastal Family Research Coalition
Jason DaSilva

2013/2014 British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS)

2011/2012 Storytellers' Foundation, Hazelton

2010/2011 Brandon Hughes

2009/2010 Peer Net BC

2008/2009 John Talbot

2007/2008 Mabel Jean Rawlins

2006/2007 Alex Michalos, Community Planning Council of Prince George

2005/2006 Michael Clague

2004/2005 (No award conferred)

2003/2004 Elizabeth (Bunny) Shannon

2002/2003 Cindy Carson, Provincial Coordinator, First Call: BC Child & Youth Advocacy Coalition

About SPARC BC

SPARC BC is a registered non-profit society and federally registered charity. SPARC BC delivers the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities and works on a wide range of social policy issues including accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction and community development education and outreach. SPARC BC is governed by a Board of Directors that is representative of the social and geographic diversity of the province.

SPARC BC works with communities to build a just and healthy society for all.

Our definition of “just and healthy” is based on five key principles including equity, social inclusion, security, adaptability and equality and is founded on the values of:

Social Justice: We strive for a just and healthy society in which social, economic, and environmental well-being are interdependent, through advocating for equality, fairness and dignity for all.

Inclusion: We are committed to achieving access and the full participation and engagement of all in our diverse society by fostering communication, leadership, partnership, and collaboration.

Integrity: We are independent, accountable, transparent and non-partisan.

Learning: We seek, develop and share knowledge and understanding which encourages citizen participation and informs innovative, effective planning and decision-making.



people. planning. positive change.