

President's Award

The President's Award is given to a member of the Public Health Association of British Columbia who has shown a commitment to enabling their community, neighbourhood, housing complex or organization to address health issues. The issues include economic security, food security, environmental sustainability, preventive health actions, and ensuring involvement in decisions by those affected.

Maureen Rowan – For her extraordinary commitment to enabling her organization to address health issues while ensuring involvement in decisions by those affected

Maureen Rowan has served on the PHABC board for many years and has made valuable contributions through her numerous executive posts and as cochair of the Capacity Building Committee. She has participated in the facilitation and planning of many Summer Schools as well as served on multiple conference planning committees. Maureen is a valuable resource to the organization and has facilitated PHABC's ability to positively influence community health issues, through bringing in the voice of those affected. Not only does she contribute at a high level of strategic and policy planning, but she also lends a hand where needed including transporting people and supplies to conferences and workshops. Maureen has been a strong support in PHABC's foundation and is the deserving recipient of this year's President's award.

The Award of Merit

The Award of Merit is given to a community member who does not belong to the PHABC but who has contributed significantly to enhancing the health of their community. They may have been involved in a variety of areas that impacted in some way the broader determinants of health. Perhaps it was providing support for low cost housing, improving the food supply for low-income areas, supporting programs for children and youth, or supporting healthy lifestyles in general.

Dr. James Frankish – For his significant contribution to enhancing the health of BC communities

Over many years, Dr. Frankish has been deeply committed and involved in promoting the health of people in BC, especially vulnerable groups, and has been a leader in promoting the health of Canadians. He has been an active and prolific researcher who dedicates his spare time to improving his community. In British Columbia he was a long-time Member of the Board of Directors of the Lookout Emergency Aid Society, worked with the Impact on Communities Coalition for the 2010 Olympics, led projects on "high risk youth", trained street youth as "Lay Health Ambassadors"; and served as the President of the Board of the Vancouver Crisis Centre. He was also an active member of the Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health and Addictions.

Dr. Frankish has been an outstanding educator and mentor who inspired the next generation of researchers and community leaders. Throughout his career he has practiced a philosophy of collaboration and partnerships with communities and community organizations, participation of people from vulnerable population groups, and participation of students in community-service learning – all to apply research knowledge to resolve important issues, such as homelessness. For example, his students have volunteered their time to work with local health or social-service organizations and have grounded their learning in firsthand experience, working directly with clients and providers.

Dr. Frankish's knowledge and commitment to issues such as homelessness, have been recognized by the Canadian Government and various national organizations. As a consequence, he was repeatedly asked to join high-level Committees and Boards, such as the Advisory Committee of the National Collaborating Centre on Determinants of Health, the Canadian Consortium for Health Promotion Research and the Board of the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention, and has made significant contributions to the important work of these bodies to improve the health and well-being of all Canadians, including those living in British Columbia.

Dr. Frankish, as a researcher, educator and citizen has contributed significantly to enhancing the health of communities across the country.

Phyllis M. Baird Memorial Award

The Baird Award is given to a Community Health Nurse practicing in a rural area of BC who:

- ❖ Demonstrates excellence in practice
- ❖ Is employed (or recently retired) in a provincial health unit
- ❖ Wishes to pursue a short or long term course relative to her/his field of interest

The recipient should exhibit some or all of the following:

- ❖ An excellent understanding of and keen interest in public health nursing
- ❖ Leadership skills
- ❖ Pride in doing an excellent job
- ❖ Activity/interest in professional and/or community organizations, i.e. RNABC, PHABC, CPHA, community health nurses interest group, etc.
- ❖ Eager to increase knowledge, keeps up to date by reading, extramural studies, attending workshops etc.
- ❖ Demonstrates a tactful, discrete, courteous, poised manner
- ❖ Able to maintain confidentiality
- ❖ Exemplifies integrity, warmth, understanding, and compassion
- ❖ Has a positive outlook and contributes to good morale
- ❖ Excellent communication skills
- ❖ Ethical - avoids or withdraws from conflict of interest situations

Bertha Lowen – For her tireless commitment to creating healthier rural BC communities

Bertha Lowen enjoyed a lengthy career as a public health nurse in BC and held many positions within this realm throughout her career. She travelled the province of BC for nearly 2 decades helping others, from Agassiz to Prince Rupert and Sliver Creek to Squamish: local/regional/provincial. Bertha feels that the most important part of her job was to listen. During her time as a public health nurse, not only was she able to witness humanity at its best and worst, she was also able to be part of a new health movement in Public Health.

Bertha is the 4th eldest of 11 children, and the 2nd eldest daughter. It was her childhood spent caring for her siblings that prepared her for her future in nursing. In the days when “girls only finished grade seven in school, then stayed home to help Mother,” Bertha had to leave school at the age of 12 to help her mother raise the children. At the age of 25, she returned to high school to earn her diploma. Following that she graduated from one of Canada’s first nursing schools in 1945.

Bertha is clear-minded at 103 years young, and still lives alone in her home. Bertha never married and dedicated her life to helping others. To this day, she is serving others with the numerous letters she sends across the country, and is still in contact with many she served with back in her early days as a public health nurse. Her memory is sharp and she recollects, with fondness, her many stories from her years of dedicated service in Public Health.

Sharon Martin Community Development Award

The Sharon Martin Community Development Award was created in November 1999 as memoriam to Sharon Martin, a visionary and staunch advocate for public and community health at national, provincial and community levels. The award recognizes a member or non-member of PHABC who has contributed significantly to community development by:

- ❖ Supporting community capacity
- ❖ Advocating for social justice
- ❖ Mentoring others in the promotion of the public's health
- ❖ Promoting the involvement of community members in public health programs.

Shelly Crack – *For her considerable contributions to community development*

Shelly Crack has been a champion on local food movement in Haida Gwaii and has worked tirelessly for over a decade investing in, and supporting, people and community capacity. Shelly cultivated school and community food environments that support local economy, while promoting healthy, local, and culturally appropriate foods.

The “Local Food to School” program on Haida Gwaii is widely considered by many as an example of excellence for other schools and community partners to replicate. Shelly is a key ally in Public Health, and her drive for social justice around food security and healthy eating in schools and communities is worthy of praise and acknowledgement.

Healthy Corporate Citizen Award

Corporations play an ever-increasing part of our life not just through the products and services they produce and provide, market and sell but through their involvement in shaping society through their increasing dominance in the social, political and economic life of our communities. Corporations affect our health in both direct and indirect ways.

In order to raise awareness of the role of the corporate sector in public health and in the potential for corporations to provide leadership in improving health, PHABC has created a Healthy Corporate Citizen Award.

The award is intended for a corporation, financial institution or producer/worker cooperative that demonstrates a broad and comprehensive commitment to promoting health through a range of policies, products/services and practices. The award is not intended to reward a specific policy, product/service or practice but rather is intended to recognize a broad commitment to addressing the determinants of health (e.g., housing and food security) that can be influenced by corporate activities (e.g., paying a living wage) and to avoid contributing to dangerous or unhealthy policies, products/services and practices (e.g., marketing unhealthy food).

Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Wave Consulting Ltd. – in recognition of extraordinary dedication to addressing the determinants of health

Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, is a compassionate advocate for those who are vulnerable in the community. She has worked diligently bringing partners across the health and not for profit systems together, improving relationships so community organizations and citizens can fully participate in the primary care model as a true partner. As Managing Director with Wave Consulting Ltd., specializing in strategic planning and public engagement, she has provided pro bono support to community organizations on planning and public engagement.

She works tirelessly with Sustainable Gabriola and The Gabriola Health and Wellness Collaborative in healthy community building and addressing the social determinants of health. Dyan willingly volunteers with these community-based organizations applying her business skills in research, epidemiology, group facilitation, analysis, report writing and is a general motivator to create positive change. Dyan recently took leadership in addressing the issues facing children, youth and families on Gabriola Island. The initiative has raised not only awareness within the general population and health authority, it engaged many local organizations to alter priorities and programming to address such concerns as food security, housing, psychosocial support, recreation and economic development.

Notably, Dyan is responsible for the early formation of the Gabriola Health and Wellness Collaborative (GHWC). In 2014-15 Gabriola suffered a rash of community-wide suicides. Dyan established a community response team. Working in coordination and collaboration with other agencies over numerous months, her efforts resulted in changes to the way services and supports were delivered to the island. The RCMP reported a decrease of 46% in mental health related call outs. At the annual GHWC Hub meeting, Dr. Paul Hasselback, Medical Officer of Health, set the context for



Dyan to facilitate the community's input into the collaborative's health priorities and activities for the next year.

Dyan uses her strategic planning skills in bridging the gap between physicians, the Health Authority, other government agencies and community groups with their many differing agendas. As a facilitator, Dyan creates safe spaces which are inclusive of both cultural and perspective diversity. Her ability to focus on community resources and on evidence-based solutions which impact health, from prevention through intervention, has mobilized many of Gabriola Island's community groups.

Through her leadership Dyan has encouraged and mentored many organizations to incorporate new initiatives which have had significant sustainable positive impacts on the social determinants of health of individuals, families and the community.