

June 19, 2024

## Mayor's Recognition Awards 2024

The annual awards program serves to recognize and thank citizens for their significant contributions to our community. In addition to the Mayor's Special Awards, 24 groups and individuals were honoured in the following award categories:

- Fine and Performing Arts
- Distinguished Voluntary Service
- Community Builder

### Fine and Performing Arts:

Recognizing individuals and groups who have gained national or international acceptance or recognition of outstanding specific achievement and/or a series of accomplishments over time in one or more of the arts.

Dr. James Bicigo

### Team Canada Dance

Alexane Best

Éva Best

Kaitlyn Rumohr

Hazel Stapley

### Distinguished Voluntary Service:

Recognizing outstanding volunteers who have made a significant impact, enhanced the quality of life and/or implemented a significant positive change in Red Deer.

Howard Barker

Amanda Blair

Valdene Callin

Lori Cartwright

Don George

Kim Jeske

George Meston

Arun Mishra

Irene Sisson

Esther Smith

Irene Wells

Robert Winchell

Martha Winchell

### Bariatric Clinic Peer Support Group

Jodi Dore

Melanie Timms

### Red Deer Curling Junior Program

Lynne Entz

Brent Young

### Community Builder:

Recognizing outstanding individuals or groups who have demonstrated special or unique qualities and who have made a difference in our community through leadership, dedication, innovation and creativity, with long term benefits.

Gerald Kress

Hoang Le

Robin McKay

Dr. Love Nwigwe

Jan Underwood

### **Mayor's Special Award 2024**

The highest honour given by The City of Red Deer, the Mayor's Special Award recognizes individuals and groups for humanitarianism, exceptional achievement, or an act of heroism or bravery.

### **The Donald and Lacey Families**

This group truly exemplifies the spirit of philanthropy, volunteerism, and community building in Red Deer and central Alberta. Led by the late Jack Donald and his wife, Joan, the Donald's unwavering dedication to community service and giving back has touched countless lives throughout the community.

In 1964, Jack and Joan, along with their children Kathy and John, planted roots in Red Deer, laying the foundation for Parkland Oil Products Ltd, a modest venture that blossomed into Parkland Fuel Corporation, now Canada's leading independent fuel marketer and distributor.

Together with Kathy and John's families, they have continued to generously support numerous organizations and causes in the community, including the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre, Westerner Park, Red Deer Polytechnic and the Donald School of Business, Science, and Computing, Red Deer Hospice, the United Way, Rotary Club of Red Deer, the Lending Cupboard, Red Deer Regional Hospital Foundation... and the list goes on.

The Donald and Lacey families truly embody the spirit of community service and the values of compassion and empathy. Their collective efforts have enriched the lives of countless individuals in Red Deer and Central Alberta.

Reflecting on his induction into a business hall of fame back in 2011, Jack Donald encapsulated his philanthropic philosophy through his wife Joan's words: "You can't wear a catcher's mitt on both hands. You have to be able to throw something back. That's very true of what we are trying to do."