



NEWS RELEASE

June 28 2016

BEACON COMMUNITY SERVICES ELECTS BOARD; HONOURS STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

SIDNEY, BC – Beacon Community Services' members today elected five new Board members to help govern and guide the successful local charity. Beacon also gave scholarships to five graduating high school students for exemplary volunteerism and community service.

“Our new directors are leaders in their fields, clearly dedicated to excellence,” said Board Chair Chuck Rowe. “They also share Beacon’s commitment to helping people and improving lives, and we look forward to working with them.”

The new directors are: Saanich resident/professor *Dr. Rebecca Grant*; Victoria HR professional *Denise Lloyd*; Esquimalt resident/executive coach *Carla Robinson*; North Saanich resident/retired risk manager *Graham Sanderson*, and Saanich resident/businessperson *Andy Spurling*.

Elected at Beacon’s 42nd Annual General Meeting, they join seven community members already on Beacon’s Board: Chuck Rowe, Joan Axford, Jim Brookes, Dr. Howard Brunt, Penny Donaldson, Geri Hinton, and Bryan Waller.

\$1500 Beacon Community Services Scholarships were presented to: *Zachary Coey* (Reynolds Secondary) for community service including promoting children’s love of nature; *Solomon Lindsay* (Victoria High) for his community advocacy (including with the Victoria Microhousing Project); *Amanda Punch* (Stellys Secondary) for humanitarian and environmental service (including working with the Habitat Acquisition Trust to restore Oak Haven Park); and Junessa Sladen-Dew (Gulf Island Secondary) for service that includes helping feed families in need on Saltspring Island. A \$500 Donna Godwin Humanitarian Award went to Parkland Secondary’s *Alexandria Fleming* for contributions to her school, Beacon’s Youth Employment Program and the Canadian Federation of University Women.

“Beacon’s own volunteers range from 14 to 86+ years old,” said CEO Bob Boulter. “We know community service can be a very satisfying, rewarding lifelong habit. The scholarships are one way to encourage that – and also to thank some very inspiring youth for helping make our community a better place to live.”

Established on the Saanich Peninsula in 1974, Beacon Community Services is now one of BC’s largest not-for-profit social services organizations. It serves about 10,000 clients in the Greater Victoria and outer Gulf Islands areas, including in the fields of: Child, Youth and Family ; Counselling and Mental Health; Employment and Training ; Affordable Housing; Assisted Living and Licenced Dementia Care; Adult/Senior’s Recreation Services; Volunteer Services; and Home Support and other health care services.

Many important community programs are funded by proceeds from the sale of donated items at Beacon thrift shops.

For new directors’ biographies, see attached backgrounder. For more information about Beacon Community Services: www.beaconcs.ca

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BACKGROUNDER FOLLOWS



BACKGROUNDER

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New Board members: biographies

DR. REBECCA GRANT – An Associate Professor of Information Technology at the University of Victoria’s Peter B. Gustavson School of Business, Grant has frequently been recognized for excellence in research, teaching, and community service. In addition to several other honours, she’s received the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business Excellence in Teaching Award, a Community Engagement Award from the International Advisory Board of the Gustavson School of Business and an Outstanding Fundraising Volunteer Award from the Victoria Chapter of the Association of Philanthropy Professionals. A past member of the Board of Tourism Victoria, Grant is currently a Governor of St Margaret’s School for Girls and the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce. Her strong community service record includes serving as United Way of Greater Victoria Campaign Chair, as a Telus Community Board member, and in several other volunteer positions.

DENISE LLOYD - The founder and CEO of Engaged HR, Lloyd is a Human Resources professional and highly regarded consultant, speaker and facilitator. Her wide array of leadership experience includes serving as Executive Director for a number of organizations, including in the not-for-profit sector, and as Director of HR and Administration for the North American division of a global technology company. Formerly chair of the Vancouver Island chapter of the BC Human Resources Management Association, Lloyd has served as Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Volunteer Victoria; earlier this month, she became Chair of that organization.

CARLA ROBINSON – An executive/organizational coach and facilitator, Robinson is the founder and President of Victoria-based LCR and Associates Inc. She’s played senior leadership roles in Alberta’s oil and gas and finance sectors and taught in the University of Alberta’s Continuing Education faculty. A recipient of the 2010 Prism Award for Excellence in Coaching, Robinson is also co-chair of the Victoria Transition House Board and on the WITS Program Advisory Council (University of Victoria). She previously chaired the Board of the Calgary Women’s Emergency Shelter and the Woods Homes in Alberta, and held a variety of volunteer positions with the Rotary Club of Calgary, the United Way, the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, and the Calgary Winter Festival, among others.

GRAHAM SANDERSON – Recently retired after 15 years as the Island Health Authority’s Corporate Director for Risk Management, Sanderson’s professional background includes several years with Canada Post and the Province of British Columbia; in his provincial role, he developed, implemented and managed the claims program for various public sector self-insurance initiatives, including healthcare. A past member of the Canadian Bioethics Society and the Medical Legal Society of BC, Sanderson has also taught on the subject of Risk Management at Simon Fraser University.

ANDY SPURLING – A recent winner of the Top 20 Under 40 Business & Community Achievement Awards for Vancouver Island, Spurling is president and managing broker of Proline Management Ltd. The Vancouver Island property management firm manages more than 9,000 residential units and a variety of corporate portfolios. Spurling holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Victoria and a law degree from Toronto’s Osgoode Hall Law School. His legal background includes work on Wall Street and practicing in Toronto, where he was involved in a variety of large corporate transactions, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions. A practicing member of the Law Society of British Columbia and the Law Society of Upper Canada and a member of both the Canadian Bar Association and the Victoria Bar Association, Spurling is Past President of the Family Business Association of Vancouver Island, a member of the Strata Initiatives Task Force at the Victoria Real Estate Board and an appointee to the Real Estate Council of British Columbia’s Strata Management Advisory Group.