

BACKGROUND 1

2021 Order of British Columbia recipients

Chief Joe Alphonse of Tsilhqot'in Nation



Chief Joe Alphonse comes from a long line of hereditary leaders. He has given expression to his lineage of leadership by being re-elected seven times in a row.

Chief Joe led his people to a major Supreme Court of Canada 2014 Aboriginal land title win. This led to work on recognition at the federal level, as well as paved the way for the acceptance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the federal and provincial levels.

After the 2014 court win, Chief Joe supported advocating for the exoneration of the six Tsilhqot'in chiefs who were unjustly executed more than 130 years ago. Chief Joe was on the floor of the House of Commons to hear directly the acknowledgment of the prime minister of this historic wrong. The Province of B.C. also exonerated the six war chiefs.

Chief Joe championed support for establishment of the Tsilhqot'in Women's Council, which forms a part of the Tsilhqot'in National Government structure.

He is tireless in his efforts to support issues with his people in all socio-economic areas, is adept at navigating the often difficult field of politics including at the global level having presented at the United Nations permanent forum on Indigenous issues.

Chief Joe speaks his language fluently. He is also sought out to give speeches and provide support to other First Nations people and issues, and is particularly supported and recognized for his efforts to support women's issues.

Chief Joe is a fierce and determined protector of his people and land and achieved wide acclaim for his courageous leadership during the wildfires of 2017.

Joe Average, M.G.C. of Vancouver



Joe Average, born Brock David Tebbutt, has been an important contributor to the B.C., Canadian and international art scene since the mid 1980s, when an HIV diagnosis, complete with an uncertain life expectancy, moved him to focus exclusively on his art. He changed his name to Joe Average after being inspired by artists in Canada's Western Front who adopted stage names like Dr. Brute and Sally Peanuts. His easily recognizable pieces, featuring images of flowers, animals, insects and people, have

captured the interest of international art critics, royalty and celebrities, while remaining accessible and meaningful to local collectors and supporters.

Average's work has been described as "a visionary kaleidoscope of colour, creativity and compassion" and has come to symbolize love and inclusivity. Over the years he has received numerous awards and honours, including civic merit awards, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award (1998) and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for Outstanding Community Achievement (2002). In 2002, then-mayor Philip Owen issued a civic proclamation designating Nov. 3, 2002 as Joe Average Day. In 2004, Average became a member of the Royal Canadian Academy (RCA) of Artists and won its prestigious RCA award. In 2019 he designed the Equality Coin for the Royal Canadian Mint. Also in 2019, Joe received the B.C. Medal of Good Citizenship.

Average's art transcends mere placement on gallery walls. His images have come to symbolize hope to millions of people living with HIV/AIDS. Despite his well-documented long, painful health struggle, he has quietly and consistently donated prints and photographic works to charitable causes across the province serving children and those living with terminal illness. For years, he has designed posters and t-shirts for Vancouver's annual AIDS walk, helping raise funds for local service organizations like A Loving Spoonful. Over the last 35 years, there has seldom been an HIV/ AIDS fundraising event that did not feature at least one Joe Average piece on the auction block. Average's commitment was evident throughout the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, as sales of masks featuring his most iconic images raised \$10,000 for BC Children's Hospital.

In addition to Average's significant contributions as an artist and philanthropist, by sharing his personal story, he has quietly raised awareness of what it means to live with HIV /AIDS. His moving, painful honesty has encouraged his fellow Canadians to support community projects and has helped raised the profile of men and women who have struggled with isolation, rejection and stigma associated with AIDS.

Brenda Baptiste of Osoyoos



In the late 1990s the Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB), largely through the efforts of Chief Clarence Louie, established itself as an economic force in the South Okanagan. At the same time, chief and council embarked on the feasibility for a cultural centre that would not only help preserve Syilx (Okanagan) culture but present this cultural richness to the greater public.

In 2003, Brenda Baptiste was hired to coordinate the planning and operations for the \$10-million first phase of the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre (NDCC) that would celebrate Syilx culture and life in the desert context. The OIB had limited financial resources to subsidize the cultural centre and decided to open the NDCC to the public to assist with financial operations and to celebrate Indigenous Syilx culture, truly a precursor for reconciliation. The centre went on to win numerous awards and is now in a Phase 2 expansion, for which Baptiste is guiding the Indigenous story. The completion of this next phase will further anchor the centre as one of the leading cultural attractions in B.C.

Following the inspirational success with the NDCC, Brenda was elected to the board of the then

Aboriginal Tourism BC (AtBC), which was a young financially strapped organization of 12 members and one employee. It now has 500 members and 12 employees.

For Baptiste, three issues became evident:

- i. Indigenous cultural tourism would need to become not only an economic opportunity for B.C.'s Indigenous communities but would provide "pride-of-nation" and a powerful path to reconciliation for Indigenous communities as they chose what cultural elements to protect and what to share and celebrate with visitors, ensuring cultural authenticity.
- ii. For Indigenous cultural rebirth a clear road map was imperative and as a result she worked in collaboration with a team to develop a blueprint for the growth of Indigenous cultural tourism in B.C., and the first of its kind in Canada. The strategy was the catalyst for incredible growth in Indigenous cultural tourism — 20% each year on average, including revenues of more than \$1.2 billion and 7,400 full-time jobs.
- iii. The vision for a potent Indigenous cultural presence had to include a strong B.C. identity, which would celebrate the rich cultural life of Indigenous people. This collaborative effort would be sustained through meaningful partnerships with the B.C. government and tourism industry partners.

Baptiste was also the director of the Aboriginal Business Showcase for the Four Host Nations during the 2010 Olympics. This venue hosted over 500 Indigenous cultural businesses and artisans from across Canada. The vision was to create an opportunity for visitors reflecting dynamic and diverse Indigenous cultures, thereby facilitating the growth of cultural opportunities for all Indigenous Nations in Canada.

Recently, Baptiste led the coordination of a holistic cultural program for Indigenous inmates at the Okanagan Correction Centre. She has implemented cultural events for those often in most need to build pride in their essence as a native person. She has implemented Syilx cultural programming, including spiritual counselling, smudging, singing and drumming, sweat house ceremonies, Syilx language and crafts.

Frances Belzberg, O.C. of Vancouver



Since arriving in B.C. over 40 years ago, Frances Belzberg has championed numerous causes, from health care and medical research to education and nurturing the next generation of Canadian leaders. After her husband of 68 years, Samuel Belzberg, OC, OBC died in 2018, Frances continued their family's lifelong legacy of community leadership here in B.C. Now in her mid-90s, Frances' commitment remains unwavering.

In 1976, Belzberg co-founded the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF), with the mission to advance research, promote awareness, and support the well-being of those affected by the disease. In his testimony, Dr. Anthony Lang, OC, chair for Parkinson's research at the University of Toronto explains that "[the] establishment of the DMRF essentially revolutionized the field" and that "Frances has been an active driver and supporter of the work of the

foundation.” Forty-five years later, Belzberg is still actively involved in the foundation.

In the early 1990s, Belzberg was instrumental in the establishment of the Think Aids Society to advance research and funding, and raise awareness for HIV/AIDS. According to Dr. Julio Montaner, OC, OBC, “without the dedication of community leaders like Frances Belzberg, the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS would not have become Canada’s largest HIV/AIDS research organization and a world leader in the fight against HIV.” In 1995, Belzberg was awarded the Order of Canada in recognition of her numerous achievements.

In 2003, the Government of Canada partnered with the Belzberg Family to create Action Canada, a joint initiative to inspire and support young Canadians and future public policy influencers.

As a champion of education, Belzberg and family have made transformational impacts to the University of British Columbia (UBC) and Simon Fraser University (SFU). In 2016, Frances and Samuel Belzberg were honoured by SFU with the President’s Distinguished Community Leadership Award “for their many years of philanthropy and commitment to education, leadership and equality,” as described by Professor Andrew Petter, CM, OBC, QC, President Emeritus.

Dr. Debra Braithwaite of Victoria



Dr. Debra Braithwaite was the community physician during her 34-year career at Victoria Hospice. When she started in 1984, the field of palliative care was in its infancy in Canada, as was the Victoria Hospice organization.

Braithwaite decided early in her career that caring for those at end of life was important. She wanted to focus on helping people to die well at home. At that time, for many, end-of-life was dealt with in a hospital setting and did not involve family.

Prior to 1984, Victoria Hospice was a pilot project with temporary funding. Now, it has garnered an international reputation as a pioneer in palliative care. For many years, Braithwaite was the physician who registered every patient with Victoria Hospice, which grew from 30 patients in the beginning, to over 400 at any one time now. She became the public face of palliative care in the community.

Dr. Braithwaite then spent the next 34 years educating herself as well as health care professionals, volunteers, patients, and the community, about palliative care. Through workshops, university courses, protocols, manuals, and mentoring, she formalized the discipline while remaining flexible as the body of knowledge grew.

Braithwaite also cared for every child who connected with Victoria Hospice, being available 24/7 for patients and families. Prior to retirement, Braithwaite helped transition additional colleagues to continue this important work.

Braithwaite has been acknowledged both locally and nationally by her peers and her community for the contributions she has made to the development of palliative care, they include:

- F.C.F.P. – Honorary degree from the Canadian College of Family Physicians for contributions to the field of palliative medicine in Canada
- Women of Distinction – Health and Medicine
- Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal recipient for contributions to the development of palliative care in Canada

Braithwaite is now officially retired but her contribution to the field of palliative care will be her legacy.

Ajay Dilawri of Vancouver



Ajay Dilawri is a leading entrepreneur whose vision, perseverance, leadership, and social conscience continues to improve the lives of many people in our province. He has made a significant and far-reaching impact throughout B.C.

Ajay and his brothers Kap and Tony are the founders of the Dilawri Group - the largest automotive group in Canada, with more than 4,000 employees and 76 automotive dealerships across Canada. With 24 dealerships in B.C. alone, he supports more than 2,000 employees and their families in his home province. His significant investment in electrical vehicle development is also helping address climate change and contributes to a greener economy.

The Dilawri brothers' success is largely based on learning a strong work ethic from their parents, who immigrated to Canada from India. They haven't forgotten their upbringing and have built the business not only for financial success, but to generate enough capital to give back to the community.

With a focus on children and healthy outcomes, the Dilawri Foundation has donated tens of millions of dollars to help charitable causes in health care, mental health, education, autism, and public safety. Ajay believes that by giving children a solid foundation early in life, they are infinitely more likely to thrive in the future.

Dilawri uses his considerable leadership skills daily to ensure the well-being of British Columbians. His commitment to making B.C. a better place to live creates a healthier and more productive population, which benefits everyone in the province.

Debra Doucette (Hewson) of the District of North Vancouver



On her path to becoming president and CEO of B.C.-based investment firm Odlum Brown, Debra Doucette has been a pioneer in a traditionally male-dominated industry. In 2007, she became the first female leader in the firm's then 84-year history, after serving as chief operating officer for seven years.

In 2019, Doucette was recognized by BC Business magazine as one of the province's most influential women in the trailblazers category for her work to promote gender equity in finance. Her mentorship has been invaluable not

only to colleagues at Odium Brown, but to individuals throughout B.C., through endeavours such as Minerva's CEO for a Day program and her work with the UBC Sauder School of Business faculty advisory board. Doucette's passionate leadership and sterling reputation have been instrumental in changing the face of the finance industry, and broader business community in B.C.

Nationally, Doucette is a former industry director and chair of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund, and in 2017 was recognized as one of Canada's Most Admired CEOs. In 2020, Doucette's steadfast leadership saw Odium Brown through the COVID-19 crisis and the associated drop in markets, resulting in the firm making no layoffs and finishing the fiscal year with record assets under management. She also continued to be an inspirational leader in the business community, participating in industry roundtable discussions and being interviewed on a national scale about leading an investment firm through the pandemic.

Beyond her unprecedented accomplishments in her industry, Doucette is known as a philanthropic community leader. In recognition of her significant community contributions, in 2012 she was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Governor General of Canada. For Canada's sesquicentennial, she was featured among other exceptional Canadians in the book *Canada 150 Women*.

In addition to being the driving force behind the growth of Odium Brown's corporate philanthropy program, which has grown to over \$1.4 million annually in sponsorships and corporate donations, and continued to support community partners throughout the pandemic under her leadership, she gives generously of her own time and resources to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Currently, she is a board member of Providence Health Care, Drug Free Kids Canada and Alumni UBC.

In particular, Doucette's tireless support of United Way of the Lower Mainland demonstrates her philanthropic spirit and the impact she has made on the lives of British Columbians. From 2009 to 2012, she was a member of the board of directors and was the 2011-12 campaign cabinet co-chair. She has also been a leadership speaker since 2004, visiting workplaces to inspire donors to give to the United Way. With Doucette as champion, Odium Brown increases its fundraising efforts each year, in 2020 raising an astounding \$333,955 for the United Way – an especially impressive amount given that the campaign was entirely virtual.

Doucette's journey from a self-described "receiver" of United Way support to a "contributor" is remarkable. She has spoken publicly about her family benefiting from United Way programs when she was a child in the 1960s, and she never forgot the difference the organization made to her family. Coming full circle, in 2016 Debra received the Joseph and Rosalie Segal United Way Community Vision Award in recognition of her outstanding commitment to the betterment of the community through her leadership and support of United Way.

Dr. Bonnie J. Fraser Henry of Victoria



Dr. Bonnie Henry was appointed as provincial health officer for B.C. on Feb. 1, 2018 and has led the province through the mayhem of COVID-19 with outstanding community leadership benefiting all people of B.C. Her exemplary commitment to the health and well-being of everyone in the province, and her tireless dedication to communicable disease prevention leaves a lasting legacy.

Henry was the deputy provincial health officer for three years starting in August 2014. Prior to that, she served as the interim provincial executive medical director of the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) from December 2013 until August 2014.

She was also BCCDC's medical director of communicable disease prevention and control and public health emergency management. She served as medical director for the provincial emerging and vector-borne diseases program, as well as a provincial program for surveillance and control of health-care associated infections; a position she started in February 2005. When B.C. was infected with COVID-19 Dr. Henry was ready and led the country in prevention awareness to isolate the virus.

Prior to this, she was responsible for the Toronto Public Health emergency services unit and the communicable disease liaison unit and was the operational lead in the response to the SARS outbreak in Toronto. Never one to hide from adversity, she was a member of the executive team of the Ontario SARS scientific advisory committee.

Henry is a specialist in public health and preventive medicine and is board certified in preventive medicine in the U.S. She graduated from Dalhousie Medical School and completed a master's in public health in San Diego. She also completed her residency training in preventive medicine at the University of California, San Diego, and in community medicine at the University of Toronto.

She is an associate professor at the UBC faculty of medicine and has taught at Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria and in Ecuador at a university partnership. She is the past chair of Immunize Canada and a past member of the Canadian National Advisory Committee on Immunization and the National Infection Control Guidelines Steering Committee. She chaired the Canadian Public Health Measures Task Group and was a member of the Infection Control Expert Group and the Canadian Pandemic Coordinating Committee responding to pandemic H1N1 (2009) influenza. She is the Chair of the Canadian Pandemic Influenza Preparedness task group which developed the plan on which Canada's COVID-19 response was based. She is also the Chair of the Canadian Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health, which formed the basis for the Special Advisory Committee responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada.

Henry has developed extensive knowledge and experience in three primary areas of public health over the past two decades: surveillance; public health emergency management; and infection prevention and control. She is recognized nationally and internationally in these areas and was specifically requested to represent Canada and support the World Health Organization

(WHO), Pan American Health Organization in initiatives in these areas working on the Ebola crisis in Uganda and polio eradication in Pakistan. She has also been requested to provide advice to several provincial governments. In recognition of this expertise, she has been invited to sit on the National Advisory Committee on Immunization and the National Infection Control Guidelines Steering Committee in Canada and a WHO Expert Group on Mass Gatherings and WHO Advisory Committee on Health Security Interface. The guidelines developed by these groups affect public health and health care programs across the country and internationally.

She has been involved with planning, surveillance and response to mass gatherings in Canada and internationally, including with the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games. She is the author of *Soap and Water and Common Sense*, a guide to staying healthy in a microbe filled world and co-author with her sister Lynn Henry of *Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe* – four weeks that shaped a pandemic. She remains calm and compassionate in chaos, practical when others are paranoid, and serves with outstanding distinction in whatever health portfolio she takes on.

Carol A. Lee of Vancouver



Carole Anne Lee is the chair of the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation, a registered charity that she co-founded in 2011. The Chinatown Foundation is committed to the cultural, economic, and physical revitalization of Vancouver's historic Chinatown. Projects that she has spearheaded focus on creating a lasting positive impact such as affordable housing, seniors housing, and cultural and economic development. These initiatives include 58 West Hastings, a social

housing project located in the Downtown Eastside that will provide 231 new homes and a 4,645 square-metre (50,000-square foot) health-care centre that will serve the entire community; May Wah Hotel, an Single room occupancy form of housing, which provides low income housing in Chinatown, ensuring a safe home, activities and events for residents; and the Chinatown Storytelling Centre, Canada's first institution of its kind dedicated to preserving and sharing the stories of early Chinese Canadians whose contributions have shaped Canada's past, present, and future.

During COVID-19, under her leadership the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation launched an Economic Recovery program, which helped businesses apply for COVID-19 support programs by connecting businesses with financial institutions and government agencies. The foundation also launched an online pop-up shop called Gifts from Chinatown and created A Taste of Chinatown to promote local restaurants and businesses through a walking tour and media campaign.

Lee is a community builder and serves on a number of boards including BC Achievement, UBC Properties Trust, Harvard Business School Canadian Advisory Board, Faculty Advisory Board of Sauder Business School and co-chair of the John McArthur Distinguished Fellowship. She was vice-chair of the Asia Pacific Trade Council, a member of the Federal Advisory Council on Economic Growth, on the board of the Rideau Hall Foundation and on the Leadership Council of

the Perimeter Institute of Theoretical Physics in Waterloo. She has honorary doctorates from the University of British Columbia and the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), and a Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Dr. James McEwen, O.C. of Vancouver



Jim McEwen, a B.C.-based biomedical engineer, inventor, entrepreneur, philanthropist, mentor and volunteer, revolutionized one aspect of medicine through his invention of the automatic surgical tourniquet, a medical device that has significantly improved surgical safety, quality and efficiency around the world.

McEwen received BSc and PhD degrees in electrical engineering from the University of British Columbia (UBC). He is a registered professional engineer and adjunct professor in UBC's school of biomedical engineering, department of electrical and computer engineering, and faculty of medicine. He has led and founded many successful companies and organizations, including Vancouver Hospital & Health Sciences Centre's biomedical engineering department, Western Clinical Engineering Ltd., Delfi Medical Innovations Inc., and the Medical Device Development Centre, a not-for-profit centre that facilitates the collaborative development and evaluation of new medical technologies.

The widespread adoption of McEwen's tourniquet technologies has significantly improved surgical safety, quality and economy. The idea for an automatic tourniquet arose in the late 1970s after McEwen, who had just earned his PhD, learned of a patient at Vancouver General Hospital who was injured by a conventional tourniquet during surgery. McEwen set to work on developing better technology. Four decades later, the tourniquets created by him and his team at Vancouver's non-profit Medical Device Development Centre have been used in more than 80 million surgical procedures worldwide — nearly 20,000 every day.

Today, McEwen's focuses on developing need-oriented medical technology that improves medical diagnosis and treatments and controls health care costs. He has over 240 patents and patent applications internationally for a range of medical devices, and continues to explore new innovations involving tourniquet technologies, such as those that support orthopaedic rehabilitation and cancer treatment.

McEwen has served on the Premier's Council on Science and Technology and as a board member of the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation, BC Institute of Technology (BCIT), and the ALS Society of BC. As board chair of the ALS Society of British Columbia he received the William Fraser Leadership Development Award and a BC Achievement Award for contributions including launching a design competition that pairs engineering and technology students with ALS patients to develop technologies to improve quality of life for those living with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), a fatal disease with no known cause or cure. McEwen also supports the next generation of innovators through scholarships and bursaries for high school students who overcome adversity and achieve excellence while helping others.

McEwen's contributions have been recognized through his appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2011 and induction into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2020, where he joined an illustrious roster that includes fellow Canadians Frederick Banting and Charles Best, the co-discoverers of insulin. Other honours include the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, honorary doctorates from Simon Fraser University and UBC, the Meritorious Achievement Award from Engineers and Geoscientists BC, the UBC Applied Science Dean's Medal of Distinction and the Principal Award for Innovation in Canada from the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation.

Professor Andrew Petter, C.M., Q.C. of Victoria



Andrew Petter has always viewed the future not as a gift but as an opportunity. Over a lifetime of service to the province, his visionary leadership has had a transformative impact on B.C. in public policy, legal education, university engagement and community betterment.

As a provincial cabinet minister, Petter led efforts to end legal discrimination against same-sex couples, establish the BC Treaty Commission, develop a mandate for the Nisga'a treaty negotiations, and create B.C.'s first Forest Practices Code. These initiatives enhanced human rights, advanced reconciliation, and positioned B.C. as a leader in environmental protection.

As dean of law at the University of Victoria, Petter established UVIC Law as a trailblazer in Indigenous legal education with enriched programming and ground-breaking initiatives like the Akitsiraq Law School that extended the reach of legal education to Indigenous peoples in the high Arctic.

As president and vice-chancellor of Simon Fraser University, Petter oversaw the development and implementation of a strategic vision that established SFU as Canada's "engaged university." Under his leadership, SFU expanded co-operative education and community-based learning, developed an innovative strategy to support sustainable growth and social infrastructure, and became a catalyst for community dialogue and development. In addition to being named Canada's top comprehensive university by Maclean's Magazine for nine of his 10 years, in 2020 SFU was ranked first in the world by Times Higher Education for its impact on sustainable cities and communities.

Finally, as MLA and minister responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission, Petter made enormous contributions to enhancing the quality of life of the Capital Region. Everyone who uses the Galloping Goose and Lochside trails, visits the restored St. Ann's Academy, hikes Gowlland-Tod Provincial Park, or draws water from the enlarged Sooke Water Supply Area owes Petter a huge debt of gratitude for his vision and tenacity in seeing these and other community projects to completion.

In everything he has done, Andrew has been guided by an abiding faith in the power of public institutions to achieve transformative change. His contribution to B.C.'s economic and civic life has been recognized nationally and locally. His many honours range from Public Policy Forum's Peter Lougheed Award for exceptional leadership in public policy to honorary citizenship in the

City of Victoria. In 2019, he was inducted into the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to public policy and his leadership in advancing university-community engagement and higher education throughout the country.

Dr. Dolph Schluter of Vancouver



Dr. Dolph Schluter is the world's foremost authority on the role that ecology plays in the origin and divergence of new species. His work has fundamentally changed our understanding of evolution, revealing the ecological mechanisms driving speciation and probing the factors generating and maintaining biodiversity.

His seminal book, *The Ecology of Adaptive Radiation*, has received universal praise as one of the most important treatises on speciation and the origin of ecological diversity since Darwin's. Throughout his research career, Schluter has combined creative experimental studies, incisive field observations, and novel analytical tools to push the field forward and earn his reputation as the leading evolutionary ecologist worldwide.

Species are the result of genetic changes that make one group of organisms distinct and reproductively isolated from another (speciation). What exactly drives these genetic changes has been a major puzzle in biology. Schluter used stickleback fishes from B.C. to obtain evidence that it is natural selection in different environments that is the key driver of speciation ("ecological speciation"). Surprisingly, he also showed that speciation is repeatable, in that the same stickleback mating preferences have evolved independently in different B.C. lakes.

Schluter and his colleagues have pursued this work to the genetic level, determining the key genes that have changed as stickleback adapt to the different environments in which they occur in B.C.

Schluter is also a devoted and talented mentor and teacher. He has directly supervised 29 graduate students and 30 post-doctoral fellows and taught thousands of UBC students how to think about and analyze biological data. In the 1980s, Schluter initiated an approach to teaching statistics that centres around developing a deep curiosity about the questions that then drive students to find answers. The statistics courses that he developed form the basis for how statistics is taught to biologists around the world.

With Michael Whitlock, Schluter authored a textbook on statistics, *The Analysis of Biological Data*, which has been widely adopted by over 200 universities worldwide. Schluter's excellence in teaching has been recognized by the 2010 Killam Mentoring Award from UBC.

From 2003-2007, Schluter served as the director of UBC's Biodiversity Research Centre. During that time, he launched the Beaty Biodiversity Museum, Vancouver's only natural history museum. Schluter has also contributed his knowledge to help conserve freshwater fish in B.C., particularly by helping draft the recovery strategy for sticklebacks and co-developing guidelines to protect these and other endangered fishes in the province.

With over 49,300 citations to his research, Schluter brings enormous recognition and prestige to

British Columbia. He has received the premier life-time achievement awards given internationally in his field: the Sewall Wright Award and the Darwin-Wallace Medal. His long list of honours include membership in the Royal Society of London, the Royal Society of Canada, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Science.

Dr. Poul Sorensen of Vancouver



Dr. Poul Sorensen, a professor of pathology at the University of British Columbia, has dedicated his career to understanding the biologic underpinnings of childhood cancers. His B.C. Cancer Research Agency lab uses a combination of genetic and biochemical approaches to identify proteins or pathways altered in human tumours, starting with childhood cancers. His internationally recognized work has resulted in the discovery of many different genetic alterations in human cancers, most notably a novel type of genomic alteration called an NTRK gene fusion, that causes diverse types of childhood cancer, breast tumours, and other human malignancies including colorectal, lung, thyroid, and brain cancers.

His discovery of NTRK fusions led to the development of new treatments for patients whose cancer is caused by this genomic alteration. One such treatment, larotrectinib, is the first drug to be simultaneously studied and approved for both pediatric and adult cancers by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Nov. 26, 2018. On July 10, 2019, larotrectinib was approved by Health Canada with the brand name VITRAKVI as a tumour agnostic treatment that can be used to treat more than 24 forms of cancer with this genomic alteration, including rare pediatric cancers. Tumour agnostic treatments can be used to treat cancers that have a specific genomic alteration, regardless of where in the body the tumour is located or what the tumour looks like under the microscope.

VITRAKVI, a Bayer product, has already had a positive impact on Canadian patients. One such patient, now 10, had a dramatic positive response. At five years old, he was diagnosed with stage 4 thyroid cancer and after three long years, the available treatments were not working. Once it was determined that the boy had the rare genomic alteration that was discovered by Sorensen, he was given VITRAKVI as part of a clinical trial and the child's condition improved substantially.

This child's improvement is not a singular occurrence. A large body of work validating the clinical efficacy and safety of VITRAKVI in clinical studies has been reported. In clinical trials, 79% of VITRAKVI-treated patients who had this type of genomic alteration had a decrease in their tumour size. In pediatric patients, 90 per cent had a decrease in their tumour size, and 23 per cent of them had a complete response resulting in no further evidence of the cancer. For many of these young patients, the only other option was amputation or disfiguring surgery. It is Dr. Sorensen's breakthrough research 20 years earlier that paved the way to help understand this form of cancer and subsequently allowed other researchers to develop new targeted treatments such as VITRAKVI.

Sorensen has already received numerous prestigious awards, including:

- 2021 American Association for Cancer Research Team Science Award
- 2021 Aubrey J Tingle Prize from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research for outstanding clinical research in B.C.
- 2019 Bloom Burton Award, recognizing the greatest contributors to Canada's innovative health industry
- 2019 Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada for outstanding contributions in life sciences research
- 2016 Canadian Cancer Society's Robert L. Noble Prize for basic cancer research
- 2016 August-Wilhelm Scheer Gastprofessorship Prize from Technical University Munich.

It is the mother of the boy with thyroid cancer who best describes the impact of Sorensen's work. As she stated in a Sept 29, 2019 CBC article, "You have given us the greatest gift. Every new day that we get to spend together as a family, making more memories, it's because of you and your research."

Arran and Ratana Stephens of Vancouver



Arran and Ratana Stephens are the co-founders and co-owners of Nature's Path, a family owned and operated enterprise based in Richmond and one of the world's leaders in organic food manufacturing and distributing companies.

They began with a modest restaurant that was started with Arran's \$7 and a \$1,500 loan. Today their business, built on the philosophy of ethical business practice, sustainability, altruism and employing 650 people, sells products in 50 countries.

Nature's Path's success has been widely recognized and the company has received numerous accolades including being named B.C.'s Top Employer by the Vancouver Sun (2010 to 2016 inclusive), Canada's Marketing Hall of Legends Award (2021), Drishti Media Group: Lifetime Achievement Award (Ratana - Nov. 1, 2020), Canada's Top Employer by the Globe and Mail (2014-17 inclusive), Canada's Best 100 Employer's by Maclean's Magazine (2004-06 inclusive), Financial Post's 10 Best Companies to Work For (2014, 2015) and recipient of the Business Excellence Award (leadership category) by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce in 2015. They were inducted into the Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame in 2020.

The couple has served B.C. by working with many institutions, charities and non-governmental organizations. Between personal donations and the charitable contributions of their company, they have donated over \$40 million to support worthy causes in B.C., the rest of Canada and internationally. Many institutions have benefited from their philanthropy including the University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, Vancouver General Hospital, B.C. Children's Hospital, and Greater Vancouver Foodbank. Their philanthropy has been recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals which bestowed on them the Giving Heart award in 2016.

Arran was the recipient of the Ernst and Young manufacturing and distribution award; Ernst and

Young entrepreneur of the year manufacturing and distribution award; Leadership award from B.C. Food Science and Technology; sustainability award from the B.C. Food Manufacturer's Association; and he was inducted into the Canadian Health Food Association's Organic Hall of Fame.

Ratana has received the YWCA Woman of Distinction award; RBC Mehfi Award; and PIRS 35th Anniversary Bright Light's Award. She's been named one of Canada's 10 Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network, B.C. Business magazine's 50 Most Influential Women, and Profit/Chatelaine magazines' WI00: Canada's Top Women Entrepreneurs.

As a team, Arran and Ratana were inducted into the New Hope Hall of Legend, the Growing Organic Award by the Organic Trade Association, and the Leadership Award for character and vision from the Leadership Institute.

Marvin Storrow, Q.C. of Vancouver



Apart from his extraordinary achievements at the Supreme Court of Canada, Marvin Storrow is a senior litigation partner practicing a diverse realm of law. An ardent author and speaker, he contributes greatly to the knowledge of a wide range of legal matters and concerns.

He served or serves 23 professional associations provincially, nationally and internationally. A lifetime supporter of Legal Aid, early in Storrow's career a chairman of the Legal Aid Society said he completed one out of every seven legal aid cases in B.C.

A community leader, Storrow continues to volunteer and offer services pro bono. He and his family support educational endowments for First Nations people and other learners at several post-secondary institutions.

His 15 awards include: the Milvain Award to a leading Canadian barrister; Goyer Award for exceptional contributions to law in B.C.; four lifetime achievement awards; and five honorary degrees.

Storrow's milestone cases and judgments remain highly studied and quoted foundational references for constitutional protection to Aboriginal rights. Sparrow (1990) was the first case to consider the scope of protection accorded to Aboriginal rights under the Constitution Act, 1982. Guerin (1984) influenced both Aboriginal and fiduciary law. The late chief justice Lance Finch of the B.C. Court of Appeal said, "It is difficult more than 20 years after the event to comprehend the ability, tenacity, courage and conviction necessary to take this case from an initial, casual conversation with Chief Delbert Guerin, all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada and ultimate success. Marvin has all those qualities and more. It is of such lawyers, that our legal history is made."

Delgamuukw (1997) was the first Supreme Court of Canada case to confirm the nature and scope of Aboriginal title rights in Canada. Thomas Woods, one of the 40 panellists wrote that Storrow's successes in this area "fundamentally altered the legal and political landscape in

Canada.”

Anna Fung, a past president of the Law Society of BC believes Storrow's accomplishments contributed to a wider push to recognize Indigenous rights and title across Canada. “It would be fair to say that the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was made possible at least in part due to the ground-breaking achievement that Storrow accomplished in gaining legal acceptance of Aboriginal rights and title in Canada over the past several decades.”

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