

Order of the NWT 2017 Recipient Summaries

Mr. Paul Andrew

Mr. Paul Andrew is a resident of Yellowknife and is nominated for his work in ***culture, residential school education and healing***. Mr. Andrew was taken to residential school when he was eight and spent his high school years there also. He returned to his community and became Chief at the age of 22. After many years as chief, Paul began his 30 year career with CBC. His focus has been and still is on teaching about Dene language and culture, building relationships between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people, healing and reconciliation, and regaining pride for the elders and hope for the youth of the Northwest Territories. Mr. Andrew has received many awards including the CBC Team Building Award, NWT Literacy Award, and the National Aboriginal Achievement Award. He has served on many boards such as the Dene Language Committee, the NWT Forum on Community Wellness and Addictions, Aurora College Board of Governors and is an Elder Advisor to Dene Nahjo. Over the past 40 years, he has contributed greatly in creating pride in Dene culture. Paul has been a cultural role model his entire life, as a young Chief, as a CBC reporter and host and as a respected elder.

Mr. Fred Carmichael

Mr. Carmichael is a resident of Inuvik and is nominated for his work in **business**. Mr. Carmichael was the first Aboriginal person from Canada's Arctic region to obtain a commercial pilot's license. His 60 year career in aviation sets him apart as a valuable mentor, teacher and consultant and he is recognized throughout the north as a leader and entrepreneur. He is a founding member of the Inuvik Aviation Council, lifetime member of the Northern Air Transport Association and served eight years as the Grand Chief of the Gwich'in Tribal Council and CEO of the Gwich'in Development Corporation. Mr. Carmichael is a Member of the Order of Canada, a recipient of the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee medals and holds an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Saskatchewan. Mr. Carmichael has generously volunteered time, equipment and expertise to search for missing people and provide air services in desperate situations. He is a long-standing northern leader, serving high profile executive roles and representing the interests of Aboriginal people.

Mr. Russell King

Mr. Russell King is a resident of Hay River and is nominated for his work in **business**. Mr. King moved to the north as a young man. He worked as a welder and later, along with his wife Mary, owned and operated the Hay River Esso service station, which he later turned into Kingland Ford. An industry leading retail dealership in Canada, for which has been recognized many times for customer service and sales across Canada and the USA. For many this would have been enough for a living, but for Russell and his wife they saw an opportunity to grow their business and added a body shop, tire shop, king manufacturing and mining service division. Mr. King over the years has contributed back to many organizations and communities across the NWT, and helped support local events and people. Russell's drive and loyalty to the North gave employment and economic opportunities to the people.

Ms. Lynda Koe

Ms. Koe is a resident of Yellowknife and is nominated for her work in **professions and other occupations**. With over 27 years of dedicated service, Ms. Koe ensures the NWT seniors that reside at Avens feel that they are at home. She has created a level of care that is compassionate, respectful and dignified. She strives to put the residents' needs first. Avens opened in 1987 with Lynda heading up the long term care facility in 1989. Her passion and professionalism earned her accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Canada. In March 2010 Avens expanded to include care for NWT residents with dementia. Ms. Koe played a key role in implementing specialized training for staff. Her exceptional leadership skills have developed personal care practices and standards that put the residents first. Family members are able to approach and work with Lynda to ensure the needs of their loved ones are always being met. She is respected by all that work with her as an advocate for residents' social and medical needs. Lynda has assisted in building Avens as "the community for seniors".

Mr. Jeff Philipp

Mr. Philipp was born and raised in Fort Providence, and is now a resident of Yellowknife and is nominated for his work in **science and technology**. With no formal education, Mr. Philipp expanded the family business, Snowshoe Inn which has an off-grid heat and power plant that reduces energy costs by 50%. As a self-guided expert on renewable energy, Mr. Philipp is passionate about northern energy issues and dedicated to reducing public dependency on diesel fuel. He then went on to build the North's premier broadband technology company, SSI Micro, which over the years has provided internet service to 56 communities across the NWT and Nunavut. Nunavut's SSI network QINIQ was recognized as Business of the Year in 2006. Up Here Business Magazine honoured Mr. Philipp as Entrepreneur of the Year in 2010 and named SSI Micro the Top Northern Business in both 2010 and 2011. Over the years, Mr. Philipp and his company have contributed generously to various causes, events and charities, including the Children's Wish Foundation, Northern Youth Abroad, Kids Help Phone, NWT Disabilities Council and many more. He is a strong advocate for consumer rights and has advocated for fair competition in the NWT telecommunications market for over 20 years.

Mr. Tom Zubko

Mr. Zubko is a resident of Inuvik and is nominated for his work in **business**. Mr. Zubko is a lifelong Northerner and businessman who has dedicated his life to growing the political and economic base of the Northwest Territories. He spent his formative years becoming a highly experienced northern aviator until his interest in technology led him to build an impressive and diversified telecommunications business. The Inuvik Satellite facilities have attracted international attention. Today, the sites host space operators from across the globe, which include Sweden, Germany, Norway, France, Spain, Japan and the United States. Tom has developed close personal relationships with his international client base and continues to travel extensively to learn and further promote the NWT and Inuvik. During the Mackenzie Gas Project hearings, Mr. Zubko was co-editor of Permafrost Media, a daily online blog which reported on the daily proceedings to bring this project to fruition. He has demonstrated innovative thinking and has introduced opportunities and stature to the North. He is active in the community and has served for many years on Town Council as both Mayor and councilor. Mr. Zubko is a strong supporter of political development and views the relationship between the Town of Inuvik, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the Gwich'in Tribal Council as the region's greatest strength.