



# The Governor General of Canada

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston

The Governor General

Role and Responsibilities

It's an Honour

Heraldry Today

The Residences

Media

## Media

Media Contacts

Social media

Events

Documents

News Releases

Messages

Speeches

Blog

Photos

Official Photos

Videos

Subscription

RSS Feed

## Sixty Canadians are Honoured with the Diamond Jubilee Medal

February 6, 2012

### Sixty Canadians are Honoured During the Inaugural Presentation Ceremony of the Diamond Jubilee Medal at Rideau Hall

OTTAWA—The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was presented to 60 recipients from across the country and various walks of life during the inaugural presentation ceremony on **Monday, February 6, 2012**, at Rideau Hall.

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presided over the ceremony, along with the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada. This event marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada.

"The recipients who are honoured by this medal have made Canada better," said His Excellency. "Individually, they have improved the well-being of many in our communities, and together, they have helped to create a smarter, more caring nation. They represent a mosaic of individual experiences and accomplishments. Like Her Majesty, they inspire others to take up the call to service."

This commemorative medal will be presented throughout the year to 60 000 deserving Canadians to celebrate significant contributions and achievements and to recognize those who, like Her Majesty, have dedicated themselves to service to their fellow citizens, their community and their country. To ensure that the awarding of this national honour is done in a broad and inclusive manner, governmental and non-governmental partner organizations have been identified to nominate candidates from their community or organization.

The names of the recipients and their short citations and a fact sheet on the Diamond Jubilee Medal are attached. Additional information is available at [www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee](http://www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee).



-30-

#### Media information:

Marie-Pierre Bélanger  
Rideau Hall Press Office  
613-998-9166  
[marie-pierre.belanger@gg.ca](mailto:marie-pierre.belanger@gg.ca)  
[www.gg.ca](http://www.gg.ca)

Follow **GGDavidJohnston** and **RideauHall** on Facebook and Twitter

#### RECIPIENTS' CITATIONS

**Tomas Avendano**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

For his commitment to helping new immigrants on Canada's West Coast to integrate into Canadian society.

**Michael Ball**  
Montréal, Quebec

For his leadership within the Canadian Hero Fund, which helps the children of fallen soldiers pursue post-secondary education.

Maureen **Basnicki**  
Thornbury, Ontario

For advocating on behalf of victims of terror, and for her enduring dialogue on terrorism.

Wanda **Bedard**  
Montréal, Quebec

For her dedicated support for girls' education around the world, through the 60 million girls foundation.

Teresa **Berezowski**  
Toronto, Ontario

For her dedication to Canada's Polish community, and to its rich history and culture.

Michel G. **Bergeron**, C.M., O.Q.  
Québec, Quebec

For his important contributions to medical research and for sharing his passion with a new generation of researchers.

Alexandre **Bilodeau**  
Montréal, Quebec

For his contributions to sports and for inspiring others to follow their golden dreams.

Lieutenant-Colonel John R. **Bishop**, C.D. (Ret'd)  
Cobble Hill, British Columbia

For his dedicated support for Korean War veterans and their family members.

Pierre **Boileau**  
Montréal, Quebec

For his contributions to the arts and for promoting our rich cultural heritage.

Major-General Lionel **Bourgeois**, C.M.M., C.D. (Ret'd)  
Trenton, Ontario

For his contributions to the Royal Canadian Humane Association, which recognizes Canadians for their heroic actions.

Melvin James **Boutillier**, C.M., O.N.S.  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

For his leadership at the helm of the Halifax Community Care Network Society, and for providing resources and support to those in need.

David A. **Chalack**  
Balzac, Alberta

For his contributions to the field of animal care and to the success of the Calgary Stampede.

Clément **Chartier**  
Ottawa, Ontario

For his leadership as president of the Métis National Council, and for advocating for Métis and Indigenous rights.

Joël **Chéruet**  
Gatineau, Quebec

For his contributions to policing in Canada, and for his 25 years of volunteer work to see meritorious police officers honoured.

Lieutenant(N) James W. **Clute**, C.D.  
Ottawa, Ontario

For his contributions to youth development programs, particularly for navy cadets, as a member of the Canadian Forces Cadet Instructors Cadre.

Gail **Cyr**  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

For her innovative contributions towards establishing an Advanced Medical First Responder program in isolated Northwest Territories communities.

Priscilla **de Villiers**, M.S.M.  
Burlington, Ontario

For her ongoing perseverance and leadership in helping victims of crime, and for her research on restorative justice in Ontario.

Corporal Ryan **Doherty**  
Denwood, Alberta

For his continued leadership within and dedication to the Canadian Forces, and for his outstanding technical knowledge.

Budhendranauth **Doobay**, O. Ont.  
Toronto, Ontario

For his leadership as a founding member of the Voice of Vedas Cultural Sabha, and for his active involvement with various international aid organizations.

Barney **Ellis-Perry**  
North Vancouver, British Columbia

For his social engagement and community service, notably with Volunteer Canada.

Alex **Forrest**  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

For his contributions to firefighting, notably to have certain cancers identified as occupational hazards.

Darrell **Fox**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

For his dedication to finding a cure for cancer and for raising the public's awareness of Terry Fox's legacy.

Bruce **Gitelman**  
Toronto, Ontario

For his dedicated efforts towards improving and expanding the public's understanding of science.

Bryden **Hutt**  
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

For his dedication to and efforts in support of the Children's Wish Foundation.

Master Corporal Keven Thomas **Iles**  
The Pas, Manitoba

For providing significant support for his local emergency medical services and fire department.

Johnny **Issaluk**  
Iqaluit, Nunavut

For his contributions towards improving the health and community well-being among Nunavummiut.

Roberta L. **Jamieson**, C.M.  
Ohsweken, Ontario

For her leadership as president of the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, and for her expertise in non-adversarial methods of conflict resolution.

Major Gordon **Jenkins**, C.D. (Ret'd)  
Stittsville, Ontario

For his military service and for his support of NATO veterans across the country.

William Matthew Raistlen **Jones**  
Whitehorse, Yukon

For his leadership as an Aboriginal role model and for his dedication to the arts.

Melba **Kamateros**  
Mount Royal, Quebec

For her ongoing support for victims of family violence, and for leading community outreach initiatives.

Chil-Yong **Kang**  
London, Ontario

For advancing scientific research, and for his dedication to finding a preventative vaccine for HIV.

Captain Ray **Kokkonen**, C.D. (Ret'd)  
Trout Brook, New Brunswick

For his contributions to the Canadian Forces and to the Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association.

Veronica (Vonnie) **Lavers**  
Kelowna, British Columbia

For her commitment to providing healthy food to families in need.

Huguette **Lépine**  
Québec, Quebec

For her dedication to helping young people cope with life's challenges, and for providing them with the support they need.

Captain Simon J. **Mailloux**  
Ottawa, Ontario

For his leadership within the Canadian Forces and for his efforts to help soldiers injured during the war in Afghanistan.

Shawnee **Main**  
Fredericton, New Brunswick

For her social engagement, notably with the Atlantic Burn Camp and Muscular Dystrophy Canada.

Captain E. Maria **Magnall-Schonert**, C.D.  
Ottawa, Ontario

For promoting and delivering the Canadian Cadet Program to young people in her community.

Patricia **McDermott**  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

For her dedication to engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action to help communities, notably through United Way Canada.

Peter P. M. **Meincke**  
Manotick, Ontario

For his commitment and expertise in promoting the technological innovations necessary for sustainable development worldwide.

Bryna **Monson**  
Ottawa, Ontario

For her ongoing work with Languages of Life, and for providing Canadians with the means to communicate with each other in different languages.

Leslie **Natynczyk**  
Ottawa, Ontario

For her dedication to and support of military families, and for her innovative Segways for Wounded Warriors initiative.

Paul **Nguyen**  
Toronto, Ontario

For fighting stereotypes and acting as a role model and mentor for at-risk youth in his community.

Constable Anne **O'Shaughnessy**  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

For her dedication to the health, safety and physical well-being of the Aboriginal youth of Prince Edward Island.

Master Warrant Officer Jean-Claude **Parent**, C.D.  
Ottawa, Ontario

For his contributions to the Canadian Red Cross and the Military Family Resource Centre of his community.

Linda **Patterson**  
Oromocto, New Brunswick

For her involvement in creating safe neighbourhoods for children and seniors across the country, notably through the Block Parent Program.

Tom **Quinn**  
Beaconsfield, Quebec

For his dedication to sports, notably as an accomplished athlete and as chair of the Canada Games Council.

Brigadier-General Bob **Robert**, C.D. (Ret'd)  
Brooklin, Ontario

For his distinguished military career, and for his leadership within the Air Cadet League of Canada.

Ronald **Schlegel**  
Kitchener, Ontario

For pursuing better living standards for all through his leadership within the business community.

Rachel **Scott-Mignon**  
Gatineau, Quebec

For raising awareness of mental health issues, particularly bipolar disorder.

Maureen **Shaw**  
Victoria, British Columbia

For her leadership in occupational health and safety, corporate social responsibility and education for manufacturing workers.

Master Seaman Christopher Mark **Switzer**  
Victoria, British Columbia

For his contributions to the Royal Canadian Navy and to numerous local charities.

Hannah Catherine **Taylor**  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

For her contributions to her community, and for raising awareness in support of the homeless.

Travis **Toews**  
Beaverlodge, Alberta

For his dedication to the field of agriculture, and for his support for farmers and cattlemen.

Patricia (Pat) **Varga**  
Unity, Saskatchewan

For the ongoing support and services she provides to our veterans, as Dominion president of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Kathryn Laura **Whitfield**  
Toronto, Ontario

For her dedication to teaching and for inspiring Canadian youth to build a better world.

W. Brett **Wilson**, C.M.  
Calgary, Alberta

For his many contributions as an entrepreneur, community leader and mentor.

Sergeant Angela **Wintonyk**, C.D.

Petawawa, Ontario

For her military service and for volunteering her time and resources to the Petawawa Military Families Resource Centre.

Pauline **Wong**  
Montréal, Quebec

For her service to the Chinese community, and for encouraging other Chinese-Canadians to take pride in their heritage.

Lauren **Woolstencroft**  
North Vancouver, British Columbia

For her contributions to alpine skiing, and for inspiring others to overcome obstacles.

Xinsheng (Simon) **Zhong**  
Toronto, Ontario

For offering services to new immigrants and for promoting Chinese culture in Toronto.

### **FACT SHEET ON THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL**

A new commemorative medal was created to mark the 2012 celebrations of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada. The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal is a tangible way for Canada to honour Her Majesty for her service to this country. At the same time, it serves to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

During the year of celebrations, 60 000 deserving Canadians from across the country and various walks of life will be recognized.

The Chancellery of Honours, as part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, administers the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal program.

#### **Eligibility criteria**

To be eligible for this honour, a person must:

- Be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, but need not necessarily reside in Canada;
- Have made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community within Canada, or an achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada; and
- Be alive on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne. The medal can be awarded posthumously, as long as the recipient was alive on that date.

#### **Nomination process**

To ensure that a variety of fields of activity are recognized, partner organizations have been invited to nominate candidates from their community or organization for this national honour.

Members of the general public are welcome to contact the offices of members of Parliament, senators, lieutenant governors, territorial commissioners, or provincial and territorial premiers to suggest names of candidates.

Recommendations can also be made for individuals affiliated with non-governmental organizations participating in this program. The list of partner organizations that can submit nominations is posted on [www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee](http://www.gg.ca/diamondjubilee).

#### **Description of the medal**

The obverse depicts a crowned image of the Sovereign, in whose name the medal is bestowed. The reverse marks the sixtieth, or diamond, anniversary of the accession to the Throne of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The anniversary is expressed by the central diamond shape, by the background composed of a pattern of diamonds, and by the two dates. The Royal Cypher consists of the Royal Crown above the letters EIIR (i.e., Elizabeth II Regina, the latter word meaning Queen in Latin). The maple leaves refer to Canada, while the motto VIVAT REGINA means "Long live The Queen!"

The ribbon uses a new arrangement of the blue, red and white colours found in the 1953 Coronation Medal, the 1977 Silver Jubilee Medal, and the 2002 Golden Jubilee Medal.

The design of the Diamond Jubilee Medal was created by the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

The medal is composed of nickel silver and features a proof finish and will be manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint at their Ottawa facility. For more information, please visit [www.mint.ca](http://www.mint.ca).

[The Office](#)   [Contact Us](#)   [Important Notices](#)   [Help](#)