



On April 27, 2019, the BCYCNA welcomed almost 300 of our finest journalists and industry members to the TD Ma Murray Community News Media Awards at the River Rock Casino Resort, where we celebrated the outstanding work coming out of BCYCNA papers.

At the 2019 Annual General Meeting, we welcomed the new board of directors for 2019-2020. Sarah Strother (Pique Newsmagazine and Whistler Publishing) stayed on as President for a second term; Lisa Farquharson (Langley Advance Times and Aldergrove Star) joined as Vice-President; Tim Shoults (Aberdeen Publishing) stayed on and took over as Treasurer;

and Todd Hamilton (The Northern View and Haida Gwaii Observer), Sarah Holmes (Gabriola Sounder), Susan Attiana (The Local Weekly), Karen Hill (Kelowna Capital News), Andy Holota (Black Press), and Lara Graham (Burnaby Now & New Westminster Record) filled out the remaining director positions.

The evening festivities started with the **Catalyst Paper President's Reception**. Complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres were accompanied by the second annual silent auction fundraiser, which brought in almost \$3,000 to the BCYCNA and helped to fund the Gala.





Inside the theatre, guests were treated to the launch of the first iteration of a new industry promotional video created by the BCYCNA for members' marketing use. Then, president Sarah Strother took the stage to welcome guests and talk about the year gone by and the year ahead.

Sarah also handed out **Quill Recognition Awards** to several of this year's deserving recipients, recognizing long-standing service to the industry. The following recipients were awarded Silver Quills for 25+ years of service (unless otherwise indicated): Steve Bodnar, Rob Brown (Bronze Quill), Chris Campbell, Heather Colpitts, Rachel Dekker, Don Descoteau, Cynthia Dunsmore, Dan Ebenal, Lisa Farquharson, Dan Ferguson, Chris Foulds, Nancy Graham, Jean Hincks, Roxanne Hooper, Ray Jolicoeur, Julie MacLellan, Della Mallette, Peter McCully, Theresa McManus, Laura Millsip, Dan Olson, Serena Platzer-Byron, Tessa Ringness, Maurene Ross, Stephanie Stecyk, Harv Toews (Gold Quill), Kelly Ulmer, Alistair Waters, and Alan Wilson.



Following these presentations, another long-serving individual was recognized: Doug Foot was awarded an **Honourary Life Membership** to the BCYCNA. Doug recently retired and stepped down after almost two decades on the BCYCNA Board of Directors, so was recognized by the Association for his many years of service.

The recognition didn't stop there though. **Coast Capital Savings** was back this year as sponsor of both the **Community Journalism Scholarships** and the **New Journalist Award**. This year's scholarship winners all came from the Langara College Journalism program: congratulations to Nick Laba, Cloe Logan, and Lisa Steacy, who we hope will all be working at BCYCNA papers in time for next year's Gala!

Congratulations also to Keri Coles, Grace Kennedy, and Marc Kitteringham, winners of this year's Coast Capital Savings New Journalist of the Year Award. Already working at BCYCNA papers (but for less than two years), these three stood out as this year's top newcomers to the industry.



MCs Jody Vance and Perry Solkowski took us on a fast-paced ride through the remaining 45 award categories, where sponsors and gold winners took to the stage to hand out and receive awards and make some fantastic speeches. A highlight among these categories was the **Ledcor Eric Dunning Award for Dedication and Service to the Community News Media Industry**. This year's winner was Lorie Williston, who just retired from Black Press North after an inspiring career that touched so many.

All of this year's winners can be found [here](#).

The after-party kicked off immediately after the awards presentation and as always, the photo booth was a highlight for many. As usual, the **Glacier Lounge** opened at midnight, for the After-After-Party, which kept things going into the late hours.

The Ma Murray Awards would not exist without our generous sponsors, so a huge thanks to our title sponsor, TD Bank; to our Presenting Sponsors, Black Press Media, Catalyst Paper, Coast Capital Savings, Glacier Media, and KPU; and to our Award Sponsors, Aberdeen Publishing, AffinityX, BC Care Providers Association, Concord Pacific, Eclipse Awards, Flint Group, FortisBC, HUB International, Ledcor, Novex Delivery Solutions, Port of Vancouver, River Rock Casino Resort, Tinhorn Creek Vineyards and Trans Mountain.

We hope to see everyone back next year for the 2020 Gala – tentatively booked for Saturday, April 25, 2020!





*See you
next year!*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020
RIVER ROCK CASINO RESORT**

