

## **Raymond E. Ahenakew**

A member of the Ahtahkakoop First Nation, Ray Ahenakew has cleared the way for Saskatchewan's First Nation's people to strengthen their participation in the provincial economy.

A tireless leader, he believes in education for Aboriginal people as a powerful tool for advancement and opportunity. He served as president of the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies. He was chair of the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority, and the National Labour Training Market Board of Human Resources Development Canada. He was also a member of the University of Regina's Board of Governors, the National Advisory Panel on Skill Development Leave, the President's Provincial Image Team of Tourism Saskatchewan, the provincial Uranium Development Panel and the National Advisory Board to the Auditor General of Canada.

As Meadow Lake Tribal Council Chief Executive Officer, he pioneered self-government negotiations with Ottawa, and secured a \$40 million bank loan to purchase Norsask Forest Products. The loan was paid off in five years and the purchase has benefited the local economy and the council member communities in terms of jobs in logging, trucking, mill workers and tree planting.

He served as chair of the Board of Peace Hills Trust, Makwa International, a joint venture with the Miskito Indians of Nicaragua and Contigo International Inc., Canada's first and only indigenous non-government organization.

He was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Aircraft Maintenance engineer program at Saskatoon's John G. Diefenbaker Airport.

He has garnered the respect for removing barriers, prejudice and expanding the potential for economic development and improved lifestyles for First Nations people.

Mr. Ahenakew is the recipient of the Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan, the Raj Manek Above and Beyond Award, and has been recognized by the *Saskatchewan Business Magazine* as one of Saskatchewan's most influential men in March 2008.

Raymond E. Ahenakew      (306) 244-4444      Ahtahkakoop First Nation/Cochin

## **Bruce W. Beatty, C.M., C.D. (posthumous)**

An accomplished graphic artist and designer of our very own Saskatchewan Order of Merit, Bruce Wilbur Beatty was born in Melfort and from a very early age was passionately interested in medals and military insignia. He started with the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1941, and began documenting the RCAF story through graphic art. After retiring in 1970, he remained in uniform with the army cadets and was commissioned as a captain, serving with the cadet corps of Ottawa's 30 Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.

In 1966, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson requested that Flight Sergeant Beatty create a new national order; a symbol to promote Canadian nationhood. With a design inspired by a snowflake, the maple leaf and the Crown, Canada's best known national symbol, the Order of Canada was introduced in our country's centennial year.

In 1972, he was hired by the Chancellery of Honours to design Canada's new gallantry decorations, the Medal of Bravery, the Star of Courage and the Cross of Valour. Overall he designed almost two dozen official medals and decorations including the Order of Military Merit, the Korea Voluntary Service Medal, the Somalia Medal, the Gulf and Kuwait Medal, and the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal. His medals have been awarded to over 100,000 Canadians, including Canadian Forces members, civilians, police officers, firefighters and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He has also designed hundreds of official crests, badges, logos and coats of arms and every royal visit lapel pin for 59 years.

He worked for nine governor-generals and attended almost 300 investitures.

He is the designer of our very own Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Mr. Beatty was invested as a Commander of the Order of St. John and Member of the Order of Canada; he is a recipient of the Volunteer Service Medal and Bar, George VI Medal, Special Service Medal, Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal, Canadian Centennial Medal, Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal, 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada Medal, Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal, Canadian Forces Decoration and two bars, and the Service Medal of the Order of St. John. He was a founding member of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada and was made a Fellow in 1977.

Mrs. Nelly Beattie

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Ottawa

## **Sandra Louise Birdsell, C.M.**

Award-winning writer, editor and teacher, Sandra Birdsell of Regina, celebrates life on the prairies and explores the immigrant experience in Western Canada. She exemplifies the spirit of a true artist, setting an example and inspiring others.

She is the author of six novels, three collections of short stories, and several scripts for television, theatre and radio. A respected mentor, she has been a lecturer and writer-in-residence at numerous universities across Canada, United States, Italy, England and Poland.

She serves as president of the board for the Sage Hill Writing Experience, is a member of The Writers' Union of Canada, and the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild. She is the founder and member of the Manitoba Writers' Guild and served as director of the board for the Moose Jaw Literary Festival, member of the board of the Saskatchewan Book Awards and as jurist for the Canada Council For The Arts - Writing and Publication, The Writers Foundation and the Saskatchewan Arts Board.

Over the years her work has been shortlisted for the prestigious Scotia Bank Giller Prize and on three occasions for the Governor General's Award. She has been awarded a National Magazine Award, the WH Smith Books in Canada Award, the Marion Engel Award for meritorious achievement of a woman writer; the McNally Robinson Award for Best Book of the Year; the Joseph S. Stauffer Prize, The Canada Council, for meritorious achievement in the arts in 1992. She was recognized with the Saskatchewan Book Award for her books *Waiting for Joe*, *Children of the Day*, *The Rusländer*, *The Two Headed Calf* and *The Town That Floated Away*.

Ms. Birdsell was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada in 2010 and is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

Sandra Birdsell

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Regina

## **Dr. Barbara Keirnes Young**

Dr. Barbara Keirnes Young has been an innovator in the field of education, an advocate for the arts and a mentor for women in leadership.

Dr. Young graduated with a doctorate in Education Policy and Administration from the University of Oregon before moving to her adopted province to become the Ministry of Education's first female Superintendent of Education. In 1983, she was appointed the Director of Policy, Planning and Research where she collaboratively shaped the direction for K to 12 education with two Ministerial Advisory Committees.

Her experience in educational innovation came together during her tenure as Superintendent of Curriculum and Support Services for the Regina Public Board of Education. She initiated the adoption of the national *Learning through the Arts* program, bringing together professional artists and teachers to deliver integrated curriculum in the classroom. She led the development of student assessment and evaluation policies and the creation of the first student achievement benchmarks for a public school board. During her tenure she led two public consultation processes that resulted in the first Saskatchewan school board Human Rights Equity Policy and the creation of a set of Shared Values that form the logo and foundation for Regina Public School Board policies programs and planning.

She was elected a trustee for the Regina Board of Education in 2006 and served as board chair. She was vice chair of the public section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, and the United Way campaign. As board chair of the Globe Theatre and the Regina Food Bank she led adoption of policy governance frameworks. She served as chair of the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation's Advisory Committee on the Status of the Artist. She was elected the first woman President of the League of Administrators, Directors and Superintendents in 2000.

Dr. Young is the recipient of the Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan; the Administrative Excellence Award of the Saskatchewan Council on Educational Administration; and the Mayor's Volunteer Award for the Arts in 1993. Under her leadership the Regina Public School Division earned the Premier's Award for School Board Innovation and Excellence and the Regina Multi Faith Forum Community Contribution Award.

Dr. Barbara Keirnes Young (306) 584-2040

Regina

**W. Thomas Molloy, O.C., Q.C., LL.B., LL.D.**

Saskatoon-based lawyer with Miller Thomson, Tom Molloy has served as chief federal negotiator for the Government of Canada for nearly 30 years. He is one of our nation's most respected negotiators concerning indigenous land claims and treaty settlements. He negotiated the historic claim that led to the creation of the territory of Nunavut. His driving force for reconciliation has empowered and enriched many organizations, First Nations and Inuit across the country.

He served on the board of directors of a variety of organizations, including the RCMP Heritage Centre, St. Thomas More College, Aboriginal Human Resource Council, the Canadian Landmine Foundation, Habitat for Humanity Canada, the Saskatoon Club and St. Paul's Hospital. He was chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan, Governor for Hockey Canada, and a director of the Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce.

Recognized as a community builder, he assisted in the development of Meewasin Valley Foundation that has helped make the Meewasin Valley Trail a reality. He chaired a committee that raised millions of dollars for the Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a national historic site about First Nations culture in the middle of the prairie. He has advocated for and participated in countless national, provincial and community events including the Canada Summer Games, as well as Saskatoon's bid for the World University Games. He served on many community organizations from health research to the downtown business improvement district.

Mr. Molloy was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1996, is a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, the Commemorative Medal for the Centennial of Saskatchewan, appointed as Queen's Counsel by the federal government in 1983, and awarded an honorary doctorate of laws degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 2009. He is the award winning author of the book *The World is Our Witness: The Historic Journey of the Nisga'a Into Canada*.

W. Thomas Molloy (306) 280-7535 Saskatoon

## **Dr. Brian G. Rossnagel**

Dr. Brian Rossnagel has devoted his career to increasing economic returns and reducing business risk for agricultural producers. He has worked on more than 100 research projects advancing science in agriculture, collaborating with researchers from disciplines in plant breeding and genetics, grain quality, human and animal nutrition, pathology and agronomy.

With results adding farm-gate receipts in the billions of dollars and additional contributions through value-added processing through livestock feed, food applications and beverages, Dr. Rossnagel has made notable contributions to the development and advancement of this industry in Western Canada. He has brought recognition to Canada's barley and oat industries establishing linkages between public institutions and private companies within our province, across our nation and internationally.

He has been involved in the development of 94 improved oat and barley varieties which have been cultivated on more than 50 million acres across Western Canada. Most notable are CDC Dancer oat, CDC McGwire hulless barley and CDC Dolly feed barley; all widely grown on the prairies and have raised the grain yield and improved end-use value. He has played a leading role in developing a market for hulless barley which offers utility for feed, food, and industrial uses.

Among many professional and volunteer activities, he served as president of the Canadian Western Agribition, as a board member for Prairieland Park Corporation, AgWest Bio, the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Crops, the Prairie Registration Recommending Committee and was an advisor to the Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association. He served as co-chair of the International Barley Genetics Symposia, Chair of the International Oat Conference, as an ex-officio member of the USDA Barley Crop Germplasm Committee and as the Canadian representative on the North American Barley Genome Mapping Project Steering Committee.

Dr. Rossnagel is a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the Canadian Society of Agronomy and an honorary member of both the Saskatchewan and Canada Seed Growers Association. He is a recipient of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologist's Distinguished Agrologist Award, the University of Saskatchewan's Award for Distinction in Extension and Public Service, the American Oatworkers Conference Distinguished Service to Oat Improvement Award, the Kirylchuk Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Western Canadian Oat Industry, was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame and is currently a University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Chair.

Dr. Brian G. Rossnagel

(306) 966-4976

Saskatoon

## **David Thauberger, C.M.**

Regina painter and sculptor, David Thauberger is an advocate of prairie folk art, a knowledgeable collector and volunteer. Recognized internationally and nationally as an iconoclastic artist, his colourful paintings of prairie store fronts celebrate small towns of Saskatchewan. Community-minded he is the first to contribute his art to a worthy cause and promotes the work of other artists through curatorial ventures, donating them to various galleries and public collections.

His work is documented in the MacKenzie Art Gallery catalogue accompanying its exhibition "*David Thauberger Paintings 1978-1988*" and in the recent exhibition catalogue "*David Thauberger and the Art of Genuine Simulation: the Moose Jaw Pictures*". His distinctive style is described as a celebration of regionalism. His paintings have been used on the cover of books by renown Canadian authors including Robert Kroetsch, Gary Hyland and Bryna Barclay.

Mr. Thauberger has contributed to the preservation of our civic history by capturing on canvas our landmarks; monumental tributes and breathtaking renderings that are now preserved in the permanent collection of the Saskatchewan Arts Board and in public gallery and museum collections across Canada.

He has lectured and taught at the universities of Regina and Saskatchewan, the Banff School of Fine Arts and has offered his expertise on art and culture. His work has been shown at Canada House in London, at the 49<sup>th</sup> Parallel in New York, the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa and sold in Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal.

He has served as board member of the Canada Council for the Arts and the MacKenzie Art Gallery, as an executive board member for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and as Visual Arts Consultant for the Saskatchewan Arts Board.

Mr. Thauberger was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada in 2008, is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Medal in 2012, the Lieutenant Governor's Saskatchewan Artist Award in 2009 and is member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

David Thauberger

(306) 586-0530

Regina

## **W. Brett Wilson, C.M., LL.D.**

W. Brett Wilson is one of Canada's best known businessmen and most respected philanthropists. Motivated by a deep and enduring affection for his home province, the North Battleford native has often focused his entrepreneurial and philanthropic efforts on Saskatchewan, efforts which are having a significant impact on the entire province.

He has provided venture capital and mentoring support to young entrepreneurs including Regina's Hillberg & Berk, and Saskatoon's 3Twenty Solutions; both have since grown into multi-million dollar companies with bright prospects for future expansion.

Mr. Wilson is an investor in and Board Member of PetroBakken Energy Ltd. – one of the most active energy companies in Saskatchewan. Mr. Wilson's business holdings also include significant tracts of Saskatchewan cropland that he has bought and leased back to local farmers to allow them to deploy their capital to the operating side of the ag-business.

He funded the W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence ("WCEE") at the University of Saskatchewan with a \$2 million gift. The WCEE has become a significant innovation incubator leading to new ventures that are becoming part of the economic engine of Saskatchewan.

With major gifts to charitable causes in Saskatoon and North Battleford, Mr. Wilson has raised the bar on philanthropic giving in Saskatchewan and inspired a new level of community engagement. He has also taken on the role of Honorary Co-Chair of the Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan Capital Campaign.

Mr. Wilson is building an enduring business and community legacy in Saskatchewan with business and philanthropic initiatives that are helping to revitalize and sustain Saskatchewan's communities. He received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from Royal Roads University. He is also a Member of the Order of Canada.

W. Brett Wilson

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Calgary, Alberta