

December 2, 2022

Greater Victoria Sports Awards to Return in 2022

VICTORIA, B.C. – The Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission is pleased to announce the return of the Greater Victoria Sports Awards. The event will take place on February 26, 2022 and will be the first time since 2006 the Greater Victoria sports community has honoured the annual achievements of athletes, teams, coaches, and volunteers through a formal awards program.

“I would like to congratulate the Greater Victoria sports community on this initiative,” said Robert Bettauer, Chair – Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission. “High performance athletes dedicate years of their life to achieve their goals. Celebrating their achievements, including recognizing coaching and volunteers that play such a vital role, on a yearly basis, in the community that supported them on their path will mean a tremendous amount to the award recipients.”

“Greater Victoria has a long history of producing elite-level athletes in a variety of sports,” said Keith Wells, Executive Director – Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission. “This is an opportunity to recognize those Greater Victorians for their hard work, achievements and contributions to the community.”

The Greater Victoria Sports Awards organizing committee is comprised of the following leaders in the local sports community:

- Kelly Mann, Chair, former President and CEO – BC Games Society
- King Lee, former sports reporter – Times Colonist
- Cathy Noel, GM/Race Director – Victoria Marathon
- Roger Skillings, former President and CEO – Canadian Sport Centre Pacific
- Sharon White, Sport Consultant – BC Sport Branch
- Keith Wells, Executive Director – Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission

“I am excited to Chair the organizing committee for the Greater Victoria Sports Awards,” said Kelly Mann. “We have passionate and knowledgeable committee members who are dedicated to creating a first-class event. They will do a great job and I look forward to working with them.”

The Greater Victoria sports community held annual awards from 1968 to 2006. The return of the Greater Victoria Sports Awards is an example of the increased coordination and cooperation between Greater Victoria sport stakeholders since Destination Greater Victoria assumed leadership of sports tourism in Greater Victoria in 2018. The event will be held at Victoria Conference Centre - Crystal Garden and hosted by Olympian David Calder and Paralympian Michelle Stilwell. Tickets will be \$60 each plus tax, with all proceeds going to KidSport.

The website for the Greater Victoria Sports Awards can be found here: <http://gvsa.ca>

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BACKGROUNDER

Greater Victoria Sports Awards – Award Categories:

- Female Athlete of the Year
- Male Athlete of the Year
- Alex Nelson 'Ok'wilagame' Indigenous Female Athlete of the Year
- Alex Nelson 'Ok'wilagame' Indigenous Male Athlete of the Year
- Junior Female Athlete of the Year
- Junior Male Athlete of the Year
- Senior Female Athlete of the Year
- Senior Male Athlete of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Pat Hall Volunteer Award
- John & Marilyn Bate Organization of the Year Award