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Bob Scott Award "Making a Difference"

UNBC's School of Planning and Sustainability Adjunct Professor Dr. Theresa Healy is the first recipient of the Bob Scott Award presented by the Drug Awareness Recovery Team (D.A.R.T.) in Prince George.

The award, created as D.A.R.T. celebrates its 25th anniversary, is named after the organization's founder Bob Scott who passed away in 2008.

"I am truly honoured to be selected as the first recipient of the annual Bob Scott award. I knew Bob well and he was an inspiration to me, as well as a friend and colleague," Healy says. "He was a man of faith who understood forgiveness, he was a man of action who understood the necessity of patience and a tower of strength in believing change was possible, from the individual wrapped in struggles with addiction to the larger collective and policy questions that need our best as a society."

Healy earned plaudits for her on-the-ground support for community groups in Prince George, including writing grant proposals and facilitating projects. She helped to spearhead the Stone Soup Kitchen project that addressed food insecurity in marginalized populations by providing food preparation and cooking skills in a community kitchen.

Healy worked with Scott during his time with D.A.R.T. and said he had a calm belief in the power to move unmovable obstacles but brought a formidable intellect to the work of community building. She said he often spoke of the quadruple bottom line, balancing financial, environmental, social justice and human dignity in decision-making.

"D.A.R.T. was infused with his vision of calm, patient, agency for social change but also with his astute assessment of the revolving door incarceration becomes without a bridge over the shark-infested river that newly released people fell back into without support," Healy says. "Most people think sharks are only in the ocean. Bob knew they were operating right beneath our nose. He saw sober and clean former addicts exiting prison, but that clean and sober state was not seen as a foundation for better futures but ignored so people fell prey to the same circumstances that landed them in jail in the first place."

Healy, who is also an adjunct faculty member in the Gender Studies program, has worked as an instructor and researcher at UNBC since 1994.

"To be selected as a candidate for this award is such an honour. To be aligned with this fundamental belief in the power of human nature to make good change. To be on the right side

of the quadruple bottom line," Healy adds. "To win this award is the equivalent of an Oscar awarded from the toughest jury of all, your peers, is overwhelming. For those of us who work away in community development without hope of recognition, doing the work because it is good work that must be done, we now have an award that says, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant."



The award will be presented annually to an individual, group of people, business, organization or agency that exemplifies integrity, leadership and inspiration in contributing to the betterment of the Prince George community. Healy received the award at a celebration at the House of Ancestors this evening, October 20, 2022. **Presentation of the award included a letter sent from Bob's daughters, Sara and Stacey:**

"We know our dad, Bob Scott, would be very humbled and honored to know that his legacy continues to live within the greater good of his very beloved community. The community that gave him a second chance at life.

Our Dad spent many years telling us about DART, he was full of excitement and anticipation during the start-up days. It was a lot of work and at the time we didn't fully understand what a Non-profit even was! It wasn't until we grew older and were able to reflect back on what our dad actually accomplished.

It is organizations like DART that help to bridge gaps within our society, his vision was to support some of the most vulnerable people of Prince George by giving them a way to move forward, to feel proud, to be employed, all without judgment. Without non-profits, or individuals who believe in others, there would be many gaps within our community. People like our dad, who have a lot to offer their community, would slip through those cracks.

Determination to help improve the lives of others was really at the heart of everything our dad did, he believed that everyone deserved a second chance. While he may not be with us in

person, his spirit lives with those who need him most. We are proud to know that there are other leaders, individuals, societies and organizations who may be inspired by our dad to help make a difference!

We are grateful for this award, and it means a lot to us, because it would mean SO much to our dad."

BACKGROUND



D.A.R.T. was developed by Bob Scott (a recovering addict) in 1997 to meet the needs of those in recovery, to offer them equal access, healthy personal connections and a sense of control, to fill the gap in the drug and alcohol service industry and to integrate members of this subculture back into the community as full participants. In October 2000 D.A.R.T. was registered as a community Millennium Project. In December 2000 it was incorporated as a Society. In 2004, Bob received the **British Columbia Community Achievement Award** for his spirit, dedication, imagination and contribution to his community.

The Bob Scott Award - Making a Difference is hand-blown glass artwork, conveying the sense of a flame in motion rising from a torch symbolizing the legacy that Bob Scott passed on. It is a light meant to inspire change and build hope for those fighting to change their own lives and the lives of others (in Bob's case, the grip of addictions). The flame also symbolizes the fire that consumes and then rebirths the Phoenix. This reminds us how addiction can destroy us, but we can come out of this destructive cycle and give back to society.



For further information:

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