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EMBARGOED until Thursday, November 14, 6pm

November 14, 2024

The Bob Scott Award Making A Difference

During a dinner presentation at the Coast Prince George Hotel, Shirley Bond received the 3rd Annual Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference. Special guests, Sara Lindsay and Joel Scott, Bob's daughter and son, were in attendance to present the award.

D.A.R.T. (Drug Awareness Recovery Team) celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2022 and the organization honored its inspirational founder Bob Scott by establishing an annual community award known as the **Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference.** The inaugural recipient of the award was UNBC's Dr. Theresa Healy and last year's winner was Active Support Against Poverty (ASAP).

The **Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference** is awarded annually to an individual(s), business, organization or agency that exemplifies integrity, leadership and inspiration in contributing to the betterment of the Prince George community and thereby **Making a Difference!**

Shirley Bond was first elected in 2001 as the MLA for Prince George-Valemount. Most recently she served as the Shadow Minister for Health, Seniors Services and Long-Term Care and Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery.

Shirley has extensive experience serving as Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour, Deputy Premier, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister of Education, Minister Responsible for Early Learning and Literacy, Minister of Advanced Education, and



Minister of Health Services. She was the first female to hold the position of Attorney General in British Columbia's history, a title she held while Minister of Justice. She has been honoured as a trailblazer in the B.C. justice system.

Shirley has also served as the Interim Leader of the Opposition, as well as the Chair of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Official Opposition Finance critic.

Before her election to the Legislative Assembly, she served three terms on the Prince George School Board, the last as chair. She also worked with the continuing education department of the Prince George School District, becoming its business manager. She was given the B.C. Interior, North & Yukon Woman of Distinction Award for her work in public education.

Locally, Shirley Bond is known for her years of fierce advocacy for the North. She was instrumental in convincing her government to establish the Cancer Centre for the North here in Prince George to ensure that countless families would be able to access treatment closer to home. Her advocacy was also key in opening the Northern Medical Program at the University of Northern British Columbia, as well as establishing the Ancient Forest/Chun T'oh Whudujut as one of BC's newest provincial parks. In addition to major projects such as these, Shirley has provided countless local organizations with assistance in gaining financial support for programs that benefit residents across our region.

BACKGROUNDER



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 – Making a Difference award is a 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.



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