

**News Release**

For Immediate Release  
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**2018 Maritime Museum SS BEAVER Award Presentations**

Lieutenant Governor Janet Austin presented four British Columbians and a family of boatbuilders with the 2018 Maritime Museum of BC SS *Beaver* awards in Victoria on November 6, 2018. “These annual awards recognize extraordinary contributions by British Columbians in our province’s oceans sector” said Jan Drent of the medal committee. “The stories of this year’s recipients typify the diversity of BC’s marine interests. These awards are now in their seventh year and spotlight outstanding achievements.”



The 2018 recipients with the Honourable Lieutenant Governor Janet Austin

The 2018 recipients are:

**Mr. Robin Inglis**, resident of South Surrey, former museum and archives curator, internationally recognized as an authority on the maritime history of the northwest coast. Robin Inglis first began working in the Canadian museum field 47 years ago. He established a reputation for willingness to share his vast knowledge with individuals and institutions. His contributions to scholarship include authoring standard books of reference and articles. Robin Inglis continues his work with the Moachat and Muchalat to obtain World Heritage Status for Yuquot, Nootka Island.

**Mr. Donald Krusel**, resident of Saanich, harbour management executive. Don Krusel joined the Port of Prince Rupert in 1987 and became President and Chief Executive Officer in 1992. He successfully led the efforts that transformed an underused resource-export port to a thriving and expanding container terminal and diversifying trade gateway. Under his leadership the Port Authority fostered



the involvement of First Nations communities in port-related activities. Since retiring from Prince Rupert Don Krusel has recently been named managing director of a project to build a container terminal for the Port of Quebec.

**Mr. John MacFarlane**, resident of Qualicum Beach, Curator Emeritus of MMBC, compiler and disseminator of lore about BC maritime heritage. He is the creator and co-director since 2011 of NAUTICAPEDIA, a unique on-line resource with more than 50,000 entries about the mariners and vessels of western Canada and the Arctic. More recently he created the BC Nautical History Facebook page. John MacFarlane is the author of 14 books including a guide in four volumes about the 5,500 oldest vessels still afloat in BC and many articles.

**Ms. Jane McIvor**, resident of Vancouver, communications executive, and publisher and editor of *BC Shipping News*. This is a well-respected magazine founded by Jane McIvor in 2011 that covers the west coast marine industry. It tracks a wide span of issues including business, technological and economic trends, current developments, and regulatory and legal issues. Jane McIvor is passionate about promoting BC's marine industry and has established a reputation among its members for her knowledge, insight and sense of the industry's pulse.

**This year's special award is to the Wahl Family of North Coast Boatbuilders, represented by Mr. Edward Wahl, resident of Langley.** Three generations of the Wahl family have been involved in building wooden and glass fibre work boats and some recreational vessels on the BC coast boat. Their distinctly styled wooden fishing vessels made a significant contribution to our Province's fishing and boat building industries. Mr. Edward Wahl is a shipwright and the grandson of the Norwegian immigrant who began building fish boats outside Prince Rupert in 1923.

Nominations for the award of the Maritime Museum of BC SS *Beaver* Medal for Maritime Excellence are submitted by the public. They are then evaluated through a rigorous screening process. The award itself is a gold-plated medal cast from materials salvaged from the wreck of the pioneering SS *Beaver* mounted in a small display case. The Hudson's Bay Company SS *Beaver* was the first steam-powered ship on the west coast of North America and operated for 52 years along BC's coast. The awards are presented by the Lieutenant Governor in her capacity as Honorary Patron of the Museum.

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