

Bill Thake Memorial Award for Economic Development Leadership

Nominee Biographies

November 16, 2018



Doug Bond | Township of Rideau Lakes



Doug is a visionary wishing to share with the world the natural beauty of the Rideau Lakes and the Frontenac Arch Biosphere. He's a mapmaker and tour builder known for his extensive knowledge of the area. A retired teacher, author and narrator, Doug continues to direct his energy into educating, entertaining, and bringing new admirers to the region.

As chair of the Rideau Lakes Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC), Doug is the driving force behind the now famous and indispensable Heritage Map, aka "*The Map*." Development of this heritage pathway guide has led to the creation of walking tours in Chaffey's Lock, Delta, Elgin, Newboro and Portland and historic driving tours of the township.

Newer additions are cycling and paddling tours and publications are now available as apps for cell phone users. All are leading to the economic success of tourism in the region. Tours, whether on land or water, take visitors to places of architectural, historical and geographical significance. Canadians and international travellers are looking at ways to see places off the beaten path and Doug's tours provide much-needed direction in this area. When people tour, they also eat and shop.

Doug has volunteered with various community institutions and groups over the past 52 years, including the Simpson Masonic Lodge, the Portland United Church, the Bastard and South Burgess Heritage Society, the Delta Mill Society and the Portland on the Rideau Historical Society. Doug's nomination has been endorsed by the Township of Rideau Lakes.

Geraldine Taylor | Municipality of North Grenville



Geraldine is a trailblazer in both the art and business worlds. She has been called a Renaissance woman for infusing energy back into the local art scene and for renewing appreciation of North Grenville's culture and heritage.

An artist and art collector for 46 years, Geraldine moved to North Grenville in 1992 and opened her eclectic Geraldine's Gallery in one of the area's heritage homes. She quickly made a name for herself as a curator, publisher and real estate agent. Her leadership, business acumen, integrity and commitment to her community led to her nomination this year for the Harry Pratt Ambassador of the Year Award.

She is a true ambassador who believes in building partnerships for a stronger community. Most recently, Geraldine helped with the rejuvenation of Downtown Kemptville. She has a vision of what the downtown could look like and works tirelessly to see that it reaches its true potential. Promoting the area as a fantastic place to live comes naturally as does her involvement with the Highway 416 Art Kruze, a tour involving artisans and their work in Kemptville, Burritt's Rapids, Oxford Station and Spencerville.

As past chair of the North Grenville Community Fund, Geraldine was a driving force behind bringing new life to the organization. To date, 14 funds have been established and another four are in progress. Approximately \$100,000 in gifts and earnings have benefitted local charities. Geraldine's nomination has been endorsed by the Municipality of North Grenville.

Bill Thake Memorial Award for Economic Development Leadership 2019

We are presenting the 2018 award today but the time to start thinking of nominees for next year starts right now. Do you know a leader in your community who is deserving of this esteemed award? There are many volunteers helping improve our Leeds Grenville communities and we would like to honour them for their ongoing efforts. If you know someone who should be nominated, please let us know and we will include you in our contact list when we call for nominations in 2019. Connect with us at econdev@uclg.on.ca or call Deanna Clark at 613-342-3840, ext. 5360

Timeline to plan your 2019 nomination:

Starting now ... Let us know if you have someone in mind. We will start a list of potential nominees and provide you with early reminders of the nomination process and deadline.

April/May/June 2019: If you don't already have a person in mind, discuss potential nominees at Economic Development Committee meetings and with business community improvement groups.

Early August: Nominations are open and notification will appear in the *Leeds Grenville Economic Development eNewsletter*, along with a link to an online nomination form.

September: Seek Council endorsement of your nominee at regularly scheduled meetings during the month.

Late September: Deadline to submit your nomination. Letters of reference can accompany the nomination as well as Council endorsement.

November: On November 22, 2019, the winner will be announced at the Economic Development Summit.

Thank you for taking the time to help us acknowledge volunteers who show outstanding leadership resulting in the growth and vitality of the Leeds Grenville economy.