

**JULY 11, 2017: NEWS RELEASE**

**Join the Calgary Stampede in celebrating seniors; nominate a senior for a new award**

Website: www.top7over70.com

Seniors will receive a special nod at the Calgary Stampede today, July 11. Those aged 65 and over get free admission to the Stampede today, along with free coffee and doughnuts, free Skyrides and free rush seating for the rodeo and grandstand shows.

It’s the perfect day to think about any outstanding seniors in your life. Do you know an older adult who has achieve new accomplishments after age 70? If so, you can nominate them for a new award. The Top 7 Over 70 recognizes individuals who have started a new adventure or reprised an existing one after the age of 70. All these individuals will have accomplished a milestone or vision that inspires Albertans of all ages and demonstrates that age does not preclude developing new passions.

Awards will honour individuals 70 and over who have achieved excellence, inspired creativity, shaped innovation, and/or organized outstanding collaboration in one or more of the following areas:

Health & Recreation: Nominees will be enhancing individual health, community well-being or quality of life for others.

Arts & Culture: Creating, performing, teaching, mentoring or promoting arts & culture.

Science: Generating discoveries, conducting research, educating others, creating something new or writing publications.

Business: Starting a new venture or creating transformational enhancement to an existing business.

Volunteerism: Making a significant impact, dedication, innovation or level of participation; providing time, talent and/or treasure.

Environment: Taking action, creating innovation, inspiring others.

Overcoming Adversity: Conquering obstacles, facing challenges or inciting change.

Making a difference: Generating an outstanding contribution to community or another group.

Any senior who is over 70 and lives in Calgary or its surrounding communities (the MDs of Foothills, Rocky View and Bighorn, Kananaskis and Banff) is eligible to be nominated. Ideal nominees are those who have started something different or new, or implemented a new venture or idea, after age 70. The focus of the awards isn’t on past accomplishments or lifetime achievements. Rather, individuals should be nominated for new accomplishments, in which they’re achieving excellence. These achievements may be based or built on previous work or commitments, but they should have a “current” flavour or different twist, or perhaps be occurring in a completely new arena.

 **To nominate an individual for an award:** Go to [www.top7over70.com](http://www.top7over70.com) for a nomination form. Nominations close Sept. 7, 2017.

 **Winners announced:** The Top 7 Over 70 will be announced at an Oct. 2 gala at the Sheraton Eau Claire. Ticket information is at [www.evenbrite.ca](http://www.evenbrite.ca).

 **For more information:**

\* To set up an interview with Jim Gray, contact Barbara Surplus at 403-770-7207.

\* To talk to the Calgary Seniors’ Resource Society, contact Lori Paine or Joanne Toller at 403-266-6200.

\* For additional enquiries, or for assistance in setting up additional interviews, contact Monica Zurowski; 403-875-1222 or top7over70@gmail.com.

\* Check out our website [www.top7over70.com](http://www.top7over70.com) for additional details on Top 7 Over 70.

**TOP 7 OVER 70 PATRON CHAIRS:** Jim Gray (founder) and Linda McNally

**STEERING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS** Brian Felesky, Bonnie DuPont and Steve Allan

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Monica Zurowski (Calgary Herald & Sun); Court Ellingson (Calgary Economic Development); David Chalack; Terry Bullick (Apple Magazine); Mary Roza de Coquet; Susan Church; Bob Brawn; Kari Gordon; Susan Turner; George Brookman; Cheryl Hamelin; Elizabeth Carson, Kim McConnell, and — from the Calgary Seniors’ Resource Society — Mark Kolesar, Lori Paine, Ann Lewis Luppino, Dianne Cooper-Ponte, Joanne Toller (The Cause – Charity Specialists) and Phil Levson (The Non Profit Management Group.)

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