

**SEPT. 27, 2017: TOP 7 OVER 70 NEWS RELEASE**

**Inaugural gala is sold out**

Website: www.top7over70.com

Organizers of the Top 7 Over 70 initiative announced today that the project’s first ever awards gala is sold out. Eight hundred tickets have been scooped up for the Oct. 2 event at the Hyatt Regency Calgary.

“We’re humbled at the amazing support so many people and so many corporations have shown for this new project,” said Top 7 Over 70 founder Jim Gray. “This is an initiative that we believe can make a difference in our city and our economy. We’re thrilled that so many others share our enthusiasm for this exciting undertaking.”

The Top 7 Over 70 will help support programs at the Calgary Seniors’ Resource Society and fund a series of inter-generational mentorship programs geared to stimulate economic activity.

The project also recognizes the achievements of seven Calgary and area seniors, who have garnered new success in a myriad of fields after age 70. Those award recipients will be celebrated at the Oct. 2 gala. “Each of these seven is a true inspiration for people of all ages,” commented Gray.

The first Top 7 Over 70 winners are:

**Gerry Miller** — One of the top five runners in the world in the 80-plus age group, Gerry recently won second in this category at the Boston Marathon, but says his true passion is inspiring health and positivity in others. He’s now working on complete the world’s six big marathons.

**Vera Goodman** — An 82-year-old educator who believes in dreaming big, Vera is planning to take her reading program called Story Circles to First Nations across Canada and to Third World communities around the globe. She recently returned from Guatemala, where she was training teachers.

**Don Seaman** — At 92, Don still works nine-hour days, even after six decades of making a difference in the Calgary business and philanthropic communities. He’s started a number of new business initiatives after age 70, while contributing time and funds to make the Seaman Stadium a reality.

**Alan Fergusson** — After being diagnosed with cancer, this now-83-year-old physicist began researching natural alternative treatments, which led to the creation and patent of an immune supplement. Health Canada has approved the supplement and it is sold around the globe.

**Marjorie Zingle** — This 81-year-old business warrior is the only woman in the world to own a data centre 100 per cent, in a male-dominated industry. Her company, DataHive, has made significant contributions to the Internet in Alberta.

**Dr. Amin Ghali** — Despite “retiring” as a U of C civil engineering professor many years ago, Dr. Ghali, 89, has stayed active researching, mentoring, writing and patenting two engineering devices that are sold around the world. This comes on top of a full slate of outdoor and volunteer activities that fill his days.

**Al Muirhead** — An accomplished jazz artist, this 81-year-old Calgarian had played with greats such as Dizzy Gillespie and Rosemary Clooney throughout his career. But, he decided to switch things up when he recorded his first solo album at age 78 and ultimately received a Juno nomination.

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

**For additional enquiries, or assistance in setting up interviews,** contact Monica Zurowski; 403-875-1222 or [top7over70@gmail.com](mailto:top7over70@gmail.com).