

**TOP 7 OVER 70 NEWS RELEASE**

**The 2019 winners of the Top 7 Over 70**

**will be revealed on Sept. 12, 2019**

www.top7over70.com

Seven new winners. Seven great stories. Come and meet the 2019 recipients of the Top 7 Over 70 awards. These “superagers” are local folks who started exceptional new ventures and adventures after the age of 70. In fact, this year the winners are all 80 and older!

At this news conference (and luncheon), you’ll meet the winners:

* An 80-year-old cardiologist who could revolutionize cardiovascular treatment globally, through his work using a cannabis derivative to treat heart inflammation;
* An 83-year-old woman who once created Canada’s largest sportswear company and has now started a global sewing charity, making a difference in the lives of thousands;
* An environmentalist who walked across Alberta at age 85 to raise funds and awareness for grasslands preservation, and who gives dozens of yearly presentations;
* An 87-year-old philanthropist who uses his business acumen to help arts groups and others raise millions;
* An 81-year-old entrepreneur who started a successful clothing line for people facing mobility impairment after a disease put her husband into a wheelchair;
* An 86-year-old, known for his business innovations, who brought Canada’s first cardiac imaging centre to Calgary;
* An 82-year-old community leader, who has worked on dozens and dozens of local projects, now creating a visionary retirement complex for seniors.

**When:** Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**What:** Announcement of the 2019 winners at 11:30 a.m., followed by luncheon.

**Who:** Recipients of the 2019 Top 7 Over 70 awards, media and Top 7 Over 70 executive committee members.

**Where:** cSPACE King Edward; 1721 – 29 Avenue S.W.; 4th floor; free parking

**QUESTIONS:** For additional enquiries, or assistance in setting up interviews, contact Monica at 403-875-1222 or [top7over70@gmail.com](mailto:top7over70@gmail.com). Feel free to email if you know you’re attending.

**What is the Top 7 Over 70?**

The Top 7 Over 70 is an inspiring, biennial celebration (occurring every two years) that 1.) Recognizes Calgary and area individuals achieving remarkable success in a myriad of pursuits started after age 70; and, 2.) Helps kick start the economy by shining a light on an important resource in our community — older adults.

“It is absolutely jaw dropping to witness the contributions and achievements of older adults,” says Jim Gray, the energy guru and philanthropist who launched the awards after years of meeting exceptional people starting exceptional ventures later in life. “While transitioning or retiring individuals are sometimes overlooked, many of them are achieving high-level success in business, science, the arts, health, fitness, philanthropy and more.”

**Why is the program vital?**

It’s increasingly important to tap into the experience and potential of older individuals. Statistics Canada says our country now has more people aged 65-plus than children under 15, for the first time ever. And, by 2036, seniors could number between 9.9 million and 10.9 million in Canada. Top 7 Over 70 promotes the concept of communities better utilizing and engaging older individuals, who are practiced, prepared and proficient in a multitude of areas. To thrive as a society, it’s a vital direction.

**When do the recipients receive their awards?**

The 2019 Top 7 Over 70 awards will be presented at a gala on October 17 at the Hyatt Regency. Tickets can be purchased through a link at top7over70.com. The inaugural award gala in 2017 was a sell out, with 800 people in attendance.

**Who are the partners of the Top 7 Over 70 organization?**

There are two partner groups that receive proceeds from the Top 7 Over 70 event:

1.) Calgary Seniors Resource Society: This amazing organization provides a depth of support to local seniors, which creates meaningful and effective change in the overall well being and quality of life for vulnerable or isolated seniors in our city. More information is at CalgarySeniors.org.

2.) InterGen: The awards have led to the creation of InterGen — a talent development and matching platform that is helping to re-energize Calgary’s economy. In its pilot program, InterGen partnered experienced individuals with younger entrepreneurs, thus creating multigenerational teams that can rapidly scale growth. More details are at InterGenCanada.com.