

Canadian Polar Medal

10 October 2016

TERMS

The Polar Medal will recognize those who have contributed to or endeavoured to promote a greater understanding of Canada's Northern communities and its people. It will also honour those individuals who have withstood the rigours of the polar climate to make significant contributions to polar exploration and knowledge, scientific research, and the securement of Canada's Northern sovereignty. Any person or group will be able to submit a nomination of a person who is eligible to be awarded the Polar Medal. Submissions will be accepted throughout the year. Nominations will be received by the Chancellery of Honours and reviewed by an advisory committee, which will make recommendations to the governor general.

BARS

Each subsequent award of the Medal to the same person will be indicated by a bar, which will be in silver with raised edges and bear a centred silver maple leaf.



DESCRIPTION

A silver octagonal medal that is 36-mm in diameter. The edge of the obverse is decorated with small denticles.

OBVERSE

The obverse depicts a contemporary crowned effigy of the Sovereign, circumscribed with the inscription in capital letters of the Canadian Royal Title (left side maple leaf with ELIZABETH II DEI; right side GRATIA REGINA with a maple leaf following and the word "CANADA" at the bottom).

EHR medal is an older crowned Elizabeth II facing right.

REVERSE

The reverse bears a representation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police schooner St. Roch depicted in the Arctic near a tall iceberg and two crew members standing on the ice.

MOUNTING

A suspension bar adorned with a representation of the North Star, with limbs evoking strong winds, water currents and the aurora borealis.

NAMING

Not known yet

RIBBON

The white, watered ribbon is 32-mm wide. A silver rosette is worn in undress when a second bar is awarded.

DATES

The medal was announced on 23 June 2015

OTHER

The design of the Polar Medal was created by the Canadian Heraldic Authority, as part of the Chancellery of Honours, based on a concept by Major Carl Gauthier of the Directorate of Honours and Recognition section of the Department of National Defence. The medal will be manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint at their Ottawa facility. The program will incorporate and replace the **Governor General's Northern Medal**, created in 2005 by then-Governor General the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson. The Chancellery of Honours, part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, will administer the Polar Medal program.

ISSUED

13 recipients 03 October 2016.

NAMES

Date	NAME	TITLE	POSITION	DECORATIONS /
08/07/2015	ALLARD, Michel	Prof	Geography at Université Laval	--
03/10/2016a	BERNARD, Yves	CPO2	RCN - RCN Diver Expertise in Robotics <i>HMS Erebus</i>	CD
01/10/2015	BERNIER, Marc-André	Mr	Chief of Parks Canada Underwater Archaeology	--
03/10/2016a	SAVOIE, Donat	Mr	Expert in Inuit Governance over 30 Years	CQ
08/07/2015	DOUGLAS, Marianne	Ms	A Canadian Experienced Arctic Field Scientist	--
08/07/2015	GEIGER, John	Mr	CEO Royal Cdn Geographic Society <i>HMS Erebus</i>	--
08/07/2015	GRANT, Shelagh	Prof	History Trent University / Northern Science Award	--
08/07/2015	HARRIS, Ryan	Mr	Senior Underwater Archeologist Parks Canada <i>Erebus</i>	--
08/07/2015	KAMOOKAK, Louie	Mr	Inuit Historian – <i>HMS Erebus</i> find	--
08/07/2015	KISOUN, Gerald W.	Mr	Community Liaison Officer in Inuvik	--
01/10/2015	MOORE, Jonathan	Mr	Senior Underwater Archaeologist & Sonar Operator	--
08/07/2015	MORGAN, Anne	Ms	Executive Director Parks & Rec Assn of Yukon	--
08/07/2015	STENTON, Doug	Mr	Nunavut's Director of Heritage – <i>HMS Erebus</i>	--
08/07/2015	TOOTOO, Dorothy	2 nd Lt	CO Cadet Program in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut	--
03/10/2016a	WARWICK, Vincent	Professor	Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Ecosystem Studies	--

POLAR MEDALS
Citations

ALLARD, Michael
Professor - Geography at Université Laval

--
Québec, Quebec

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“A researcher with the Centre for Northern Studies and a professor of geography at Université Laval since 1975, Michel Allard has contributed significantly to research projects exploring the impact of melting permafrost on the natural environment and infrastructures in Nunavik and Nunavut. His research has also examined the vulnerability of Nunavut’s Inuit communities to global warming, as well as the development of adaptive strategies.”



DOUGLAS, Marianne
Experienced Arctic Field Scientists

--
Whitehorse, Yukon

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“Marianne Douglas is recognized as one of Canada’s most experienced Arctic field scientists. She has helped promote a better understanding of northern Canada through a variety of public outreach work, sharing her expertise on scientific, economic, social and cultural issues impacting the North. In addition, she has conducted extensive research in the southern polar regions.”



GRANT, Shelagh
Historian, Researcher, Author, Editor

--
Peterborough, Ontario

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“A historian, researcher, author, editor and adjunct professor, Shelagh Grant has taught history and Canadian studies at Trent University for 17 years. Her academic research drew her to Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Baffin Island and other remote Arctic locations. As the first historian and first woman to receive the Northern Science Award, she was active on various Inuit policy advisory committees, editorial boards and northern scholarship committees.”

Medals: Polar – EIRR Diamond Jubilee



**POLAR MEDALS
Citations**

GEIGER, John Grigsby Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society	-- Ottawa, Ontario	GH: 06 July 2015 CG: 08 July 2015
HARRIS, Ryan Senior Underwater Archeologist with Parks Canada	-- Ottawa, Ontario	
KAMOOKAK, Louis Inuit Historian	-- Gjao Haven, Nunavut	
STENTON, Doug Director of Heritage, Government of Nunavut	-- Iqaluit, Nunavut	

“John Geiger is the Chief Executive Officer of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society; Ryan Harris is a senior underwater archeologist with Parks Canada; Louie Kamookak is an Inuit historian; and Doug Stenton is the Government of Nunavut’s director of Heritage. All four played essential roles in the success of the 2014 Victoria Strait Expedition. Their passion, dedication and perseverance contributed directly to the discovery of the wreck of Sir John Franklin’s *HMS Erebus* in September 2014—and to the resolution of one of polar exploration’s greatest enigmas. Their collective efforts have strengthened our understanding of Canada’s North and cultivated a keen, nationwide interest in discoveries yet to come.”



Ron Harris Louie Kamookak GG Doug Stenton John Geiger

John Grigsby’s Medals: Polar – EIRR Golden Jubilee – EIRR Diamond Jubilee
Louie Kamookak’s medals: Polar – EIRR Golden Jubilee

POLAR MEDALS
Citations

KISOUN, Gerald (“Gerry”) W.
Community Liaison Officer in Inuvik

--
Inuvik, Northwest Territories

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“A well-respected Elder, Mr. Kisoun has worked tirelessly at strengthening the awareness and understanding of northern Canada and its peoples. As the community liaison officer in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, this dedicated community leader and active volunteer sits on a number of boards, including the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program, and acts as a liaison with local schools for science and heritage fairs.”



MORGAN, Anne
Executive Director of the Recreation Parks Association of Yukon

--
Whitehorse, Yukon

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“Anne Morgan is a pillar in community recreation throughout the North. As executive director of the Recreation Parks Association of Yukon, she has significantly contributed to developing sustainable programs and services in rural and remote communities. A fervent supporter and advocate of active living, she is committed to promoting healthier lifestyles, particularly among children and youth.”



TOOTOO, Dorothy
Second Lieutenant – Cadet Program

--
Rankin Inlet, Nunavut

GH: 06 July 2015
CG: 08 July 2015

“Second Lieutenant Dorothy Tootoo is the officer responsible for sustaining the cadet program in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut. Demonstrating unwavering commitment to the program, she has enlisted the support of Elders within the community to establish a mentoring program. In addition, as the residence manager at Arctic College, she seeks out every opportunity to help students persist in their studies and achieve their goals.”

Medals: Polar – EIRR Diamond Jubilee



POLAR MEDALS
Citations

BERNIER, Marc-André

Community Liaison Officer in Inuvik

--

Ottawa, Ontario

GH: 01 October 2015

CG: 01 October 2015



“Chief of the Parks Canada Underwater Archaeology Service, Mr. Bernier has worked on and directed many shipwreck excavation projects in Canada and abroad. As a senior project coordinator, he has researched the HMS Erebus archaeological site under the ice in the Arctic Ocean. He and his team documented the famed flagship of the lost Franklin Expedition with extraordinary photos and videos.”

Medals: Polar Medal – EIRR Diamond Jubilee

MOORE, Jonathan

Senior Underwater Archaeologist and Sonar Operator

--

Ottawa, Ontario

GH: 01 October 2015

CG: 01 October 2015



“As a senior underwater archaeologist and sonar operator, Mr. Moore helped to unlock the mysteries of the lost Franklin Expedition. He spent six field seasons between 2008 and 2014 searching the Arctic Ocean for the wreck of HMS Erebus, and was part of the Parks Canada team that discovered and dived on the shipwreck in September 2014.”

POLAR MEDALS
Citations

BERNARD, Yves
Petty Officer 1st Class - RCN
RCN Port Inspection Diver with Expertise in Robotics – Discovery of the wreck of HMS Erebus

CD
Halifax, Nova Scotia

GH: 03 October 2016
CG:
Date: September 2014

“A Royal Canadian Navy port inspection diver with expertise in robotics, Petty Officer 1st Class Yves Bernard made significant contributions to the discovery of the wreck of Sir John Franklin’s HMS *Erebus* in 2014. He was among the first divers and the very first navy sailor to dive down to the site since Franklin’s crew disembarked the *Erebus* 165 years earlier.”

Medals: Polar – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - CD



SAVOIE, Donat
Mr
Expert on Inuit Governance

CQ
Montréal, Quebec

GH: 03 October 2016
CG:
Date: 30 Years Plus

“Donat Savoie is an expert on Inuit governance with over 30 years of experience in Aboriginal sovereignty negotiations. He is also a leading advocate for the prevention of homelessness in Nunavik, as well as for services and shelters for homeless Inuit in Montréal. He is committed to making Inuit culture known throughout Canada and is a champion of Canada’s North and its communities.”

Medals: CQ – EIRR Golden Jubilee – EIRR Diamond Jubilee - Polar

Awarded Chevalier de L’Ordre de Quebec (CQ) in 2000.



WARWICK, Vincent
Professor - biology at Université Laval
Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Ecosystem Studies

--
Québec, Quebec

GH: 03 October 2016
CG:

“A professor of biology at Université Laval and the Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Ecosystem Studies, Warwick Vincent is an internationally renowned limnologist. He has done extensive research on aquatic microbial ecology, light and primary production, and ecosystem responses to climate change with an emphasis on Arctic and Antarctic waters. Additionally, he has heightened the understanding of environmental change in Canada’s North through his strong leadership as the scientific director at le Centre d’études nordiques in Québec.”

Medal: Polar



