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Generosity of spirit

Association of Fundraising Professionals recognize outstanding Calgary philanthropists for National Philanthropy Day



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an Old Dog New Tricks

2011
Year in Review

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Generosity of Spirit

The five partners of Hamilton + Partners discuss some of their current charity projects. Standing (l-r): Ian Farrer, Kelly Little. Seated (l-r): John Guderyan, Craig Robillard, Rick Green. Photo by Alix Broadway.

Association of Fundraising Professionals recognize outstanding Calgary philanthropists for National Philanthropy Day

BY DEREK SANKEY

The founding partner of Hamilton + Partners, Darol Hamilton (now retired), was a trailblazer in Calgary by developing affordable housing for people living with a mental illness. Today, that legacy lives on. The connection between Horizon Housing Society and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA Calgary Region) was cemented 35 years ago when Hamilton – then a board member with CMHA – started the organization now known as Horizon, along with Jim Rice.

Decades on, the two charitable organizations work closely together by providing affordable housing and support to individuals challenged by mental disorders. Today, Hamilton + Partners continues to support them through fundraising and awareness.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to operate a business and raise our families in a city as vibrant and exciting as Calgary,” says Rick Green, of Hamilton + Partners. “We believe that everyone has a right to joy and happiness and accept it as our responsibility to help build understanding and acceptance towards the issues faced by many of our cit-

Generosity of Spirit Awards

- **Small Business Philanthropist:** Hamilton + Partners
- **Lifetime Philanthropist:** James M. Stanford
- **Individual Philanthropist:** Mary Rozsa de Coquet
- **Youth Philanthropist:** Stephen McPhee
- **Philanthropic Family:** Kendall Family
- **Philanthropic Group:** Calgary Motor Dealers Association
- **Corporate Philanthropist:** Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer LLP
- **Hazel Gillespie Community Investment Leadership Award:** Dani DeBoice

generosity

izens and do what we can to help put them in a position to overcome those issues and thrive in our great community.”

The financial planning organization has roughly 40 years experience in the financial risk management business and is being recognized for its efforts at the 15th annual Generosity of Spirit Awards Gala, organized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). They are the recipients of the 2012 Small Business Philanthropist Award in a ceremony organized by the group to celebrate National Philanthropy Day on Nov. 9 and 15 during Philanthropy Week.

The tradition honours community leaders in philanthropy and celebrates their efforts and stories. Hosted by the AFP during Philanthropy Week, it is hosted in advance of what is traditionally seen as the traditional “giving season” during December. Yet, the need remains throughout the year and the people being recognized at this year’s Generosity of Spirit Awards are shining examples of philanthropists that truly feel passionate about contributing to their communities in meaningful ways.

Hamilton + Partners’ contributions have included over 1000 hours of employee volunteer time and advocacy for the recruitment of dozens of additional businesses to support the Horizon Housing Society and CMHA (Calgary Region).

Horizon has more than doubled its size to over 600 units of affordable housing in Calgary and the CMHA has advanced their local programs and services. These organizations are striving to reduce the stigma associated with affordable housing and mental illness and their message is reaching an increasingly larger and more diverse audience.

Aside from Hamilton + Partners named as this year’s Small Business Philanthropists, there is an impressive list of honorees that were recognized for their contributions at the 2012 Generosity of Spirit Awards. Business in Calgary joins with the community in honouring these individuals and organizations.

James M. Stanford

Lifetime Philanthropist

Nominated by: Vertigo Theatre and
Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra

James Stanford has been a corporate leader in his role as president of Stanford Resource Management Inc. and retired president, CEO and director of Petro-Canada. In 2004, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. To Vertigo Theatre, he is a key contributor and supporter. His relation-

ship with Vertigo began in 2002, when he made a major contribution and served as honorary chair of the group’s capital campaign, which raised the \$6.8 million to build the Vertigo Theatre Centre. He has also been an essential contributor to the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) over the last decade. During the CPO’s “financial crisis” ten years ago, Stanford led a fundraising campaign to reshape the organization’s direction.

With a new strategic direction under his leadership, the CPO was able to renew itself. His leadership in the arts goes way back to his extensive work with Alberta Theatre Projects (ATP) for more than 20 years and via Theatre Junction. Stanford established bursaries at the University of Alberta, Concordia University and Mount Royal University and – while working with General Romeo Dallaire – set up a program with the Montreal Institute for Genocidal Studies through Concordia as one of the program’s major fundraisers and lead donors. He was also a recipient of the 125th Anniversary of Confederation Medal and the Province of Alberta Centennial Medal for Community Service. For James, giving is not just a charitable act; rather it defines the core of his being.

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