



# NEWS RELEASE

The Honourable Senator Claudette Tardif, PhD

## Senator Claudette Tardif presents Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals to 20 members of the Franco-Albertan community

**Edmonton, October 15, 2012** – The Honourable Claudette Tardif, Senator for Alberta, presented Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals to 20 outstanding members of Alberta’s francophone community. The award ceremony took place on October 13 at the Timms Centre for the Arts in Edmonton as part of the *Association canadienne-française de l’Alberta’s* (ACFA) annual *Gala de reconnaissance*.

On February 6, 2012, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II marked the 60th anniversary of her accession to the throne as Queen of Canada, an event that has occurred only once before, on her great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1897. A commemorative medal was created to celebrate the event. The Diamond Jubilee Medal is a visible and tangible way to honour remarkable Canadians of all ages and backgrounds who have made remarkable contributions to their country through service and accomplishment.

As a Senator from Alberta, the Honourable Claudette Tardif was invited by the Governor General of Canada to select candidates from the community for this national honour. The ACFA formed a nomination committee to assist the Senator in selecting a number of recipients. The medal recipients come from across Alberta, and have distinguished themselves by their exemplary contributions in education, arts and culture, immigration and community service.

“It is my great honour and privilege to recognize these individuals for their outstanding and ongoing dedication to the development and vitality of Alberta’s francophone communities” said Senator Tardif. “Strong and vibrant communities grow through the sustained efforts of those committed to the vitality of the francophone community in Alberta.”

Senator Tardif awarded Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals to the following members of the Franco-Albertan community:

- Linda Arsenault of Rivière-la-Paix, for her outstanding commitment to French language education in Alberta
- Pierre Bergeron of Edmonton, for his exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community
- Marie-Claire Brousseau of St. Paul, for her outstanding contribution to adult literacy in Alberta



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- Mireille Cloutier of Lethbridge, for her outstanding contribution to French language education in Alberta
- Jean-Louis Dentinger of Edmonton, for his exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community
- David Fréchette of St. Albert, for his exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community
- Reed Gauthier of Plamondon, for his exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community
- Yvonne Hébert of Calgary, for her outstanding contribution to Calgary's francophone community in many areas
- Oumar Lamana of Airdrie, for his exemplary service and involvement in promoting diversity in the Franco-Albertan community
- Sister Sylvia Landry of Edmonton, for her outstanding contribution to helping francophone immigrants settle in the Edmonton area
- France LeVasseur-Ouimet of Edmonton, for her exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community, primarily in arts and culture and the preservation of Franco-Albertan heritage
- Frank McMahon of Edmonton, for his unwavering commitment to and exemplary involvement in the Franco-Albertan community in many areas
- Luketa M'Pindou of Edmonton, for his exemplary service and involvement in crime prevention among immigrant youth
- Dolorèse Nolette of Edmonton, for her exemplary service and involvement in the Franco-Albertan community, primarily in education
- Rhéal Poirier of Edmonton, for his exemplary service and involvement in Alberta youth organizations
- Herman Poulin of St. Paul, for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of arts and culture in Alberta



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- Sister Thérèse Potvin of Edmonton, for her outstanding contribution to the promotion of music education in the Franco-Albertan community
- Marguerite Sigur of Calgary, for her exemplary service and involvement in Calgary's francophone community
- Ronald Tremblay of Edmonton, for his outstanding contribution to the promotion of arts and culture in the Franco-Albertan community
- Eugène Trottier of Edmonton, for his sustained commitment and dedication to the Franco-Albertan community

“I sincerely congratulate each of the recipients on this most deserved honour” said Senator Tardif. “On behalf of the Franco-Albertan community, thank you for helping the French language and culture flourish in Alberta. You are truly inspiring.”

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