

# **Guidelines: The Jeanne Clarke Local History Award Prince George Public Library**

## **Background**

The Jeanne Clarke Memorial Local History Award was established by the Prince George Public Library Board in 1985, in memory of Jeanne Clarke, a former board chair who served on the library board from 1978 to 1984. Jeanne Clarke was a founding member of the Prince George Public Library's Local History Committee, and played a key role in establishing the Prince George Public Library's local history collection.

The award recognizes the efforts of others in the area of local history. In 1993, the library board added a "publication" category to the award so that one or more people could be recognized for producing a work of local history in addition to those recognized for their service in local history. The award is presented at the Prince George Public Library Board's annual local history reception.

The primary objective of the award is to increase interest in local history, to publicize the Library's role in preserving and promoting local history, and to give prestigious recognition to an individual or individuals for their efforts in the field.

## **Nomination of Recipients**

The Local History Committee of the Library Board extends a call for nominations each year to the community at large. A nomination deadline is established and written nominations are forwarded to the committee.

Nominations are considered and award recipient(s) chosen by the Library Board.

## **Criteria**

The award is presented to an individual or individuals who have made a significant contribution to the field of local history. An award may be presented in the following categories:

Service award: for an outstanding contribution to the field of local history

Publication award: for a recently published work that includes significant content contributing to local history. Academic works of non-fiction meet the criteria for the Publication Award, but so do works of historical fiction, biographies, or any publication that improves the appreciation and understanding of local history.

For the purposes of this award, “local history” is broadly defined to include all of Northern British Columbia, anywhere north of Williams Lake and stretching from the Pacific Coast to the Alberta border.

## **Recommended Timeline**

### **Call for Nominations:**

Ads are placed in early November and the first week of December. Website and radio promotion begin in the first week of December.

### **Nomination Deadline:**

The nomination deadline is on the first Friday of January. (eg. January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013). This deadline is three weeks prior to the Library Board meeting at which the recipients will be named. This gives time for the Local History Committee to review and recommend nominated material, and the rest of the Library Board members sufficient time to consider the nominations.

### **Award(s) Decisions:**

The award recipients are named by the Library Board at the last Board meeting in January.

### **Awards Reception:**

The Jeanne Clarke Local History awards reception is traditionally held on the Sunday immediately before or at the immediate end of Heritage Week. Heritage Week is usually the third week of February. Invitations to the event are often sent in the second week of January.

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