

FOR RELEASE
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New recipients inducted into the Yukon Transportation Hall of Fame

WHITEHORSE—The 2016 Order of Polaris, Pioneer of the Year and Person of the Year awards were presented last night to inductees, and their families, at the annual Yukon Transportation Hall of Fame ceremony.

"Transportation and the infrastructure, organization and maintenance underpinning it are essential parts of our everyday lives," Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said. "It is a fitting occasion each year during National Transportation Week to honour Yukoners who have made exceptional transportation contributions that helped develop our territory into the place it is today."

The Order of Polaris award was presented to the family of the late Jack Stalberg. Stalberg's single-handed ambition and efforts are responsible for the establishment of the airstrip at Beaver Creek. Starting in 1960, for eleven years, Stalberg gathered the necessary permissions, finances and support for building a local airstrip. He cleared the 500,000 square feet of land required and then maintained it, often at his own cost until the Yukon government took over upgrading and maintenance in 1971.

The Pioneer of the Year award was presented to Stan McNevin. McNevin helped to build the facility at Eagle Plains in 1979. Since 1985, he managed the facility as the general manager and continues to live there today. For three decades, he has contributed to the continuous improvement and growth of the facility and serves a central role in facilitating the reliable movement of goods and people as they travel the Dempster Highway.

The Person of the Year award was presented to the family of the late Jennie Howie. Howie was the first female director of the Transport Services Branch in the Government of Yukon. Under her leadership, numerous pieces of legislation were passed relating to impaired, uninsured and suspended driving. She also was influential in ensuring that commercial vehicles, drivers and inspectors were trained and held to the same safety standards as the rest of Canada, the United States and Mexico. Howie was also responsible for the creation of the Yukon Transportation Hall of Fame to preserve the transportation history of Yukon.

The Yukon Transportation Museum has been the home of the Transportation Hall of Fame since it was founded in 1996. 2016 is the hall of fame's 20th anniversary.

Learn more:

Transportation Hall of Fame

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