

## Clark Wilson's Lyall Knott receives Diamond Jubilee Medal



Queen Elizabeth II  
Diamond Jubilee Medal

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On January 22nd, 2013, The Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, presented Lyall D. Knott, Q.C., with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his service to the community and leadership in promoting Canada at home and abroad.

Lyall, a senior partner at Clark Wilson LLP, considers community involvement to be “a multi-dimensional and lifelong commitment” and serves on the Board of Directors for several charitable organizations, including the Rick Hansen Foundation where he serves as Co-Chair. Rick Hansen describes him as “one of the most modest and genuine people” he knows. As a dedicated volunteer Board member, “Lyall has performed various roles over the years. He has always provided a steady hand of governance and leadership and has the ability to handle the core business requirements, while always considering new opportunities for our organization”. Lyall’s father, Dr. Nairn Knott, made supporting community and charitable causes an integral part of their family’s values (his brother and sister were also recently awarded Diamond Jubilee medals for their contributions to society). He is well-known in the Asian community for his work as Board Secretary of SUCCESS, an organization that offers settlement and integration services to immigrants and their families to help them understand, navigate and access the social and economic systems of BC. Tung Chan, former CEO, describes Lyall as “a bridge builder and facilitator. Someone who is particularly good at connecting people and helping them to understand each other”.

Lyall is Honourary Captain of the Canadian Fleet Pacific and an honorary member of the Naval Officers Association of BC. He has worked tirelessly to support new veterans from Afghanistan by organizing and hosting receptions with the US Consul General that pay tribute to veterans and allow ordinary citizens to unite and thank them for their service. This initiative proved tremendously meaningful to soldiers and their families and was conceived and turned into a reality by Lyall, without any public funding.

Lyall was appointed to the rank of Queen’s Counsel in 1985. Among his many awards, he is the recipient of the Blythe Eagles Volunteer Service Award (2000), the Commonwealth Medal for the Queen’s Golden Jubilee (2002), and the Medal of Merit Award of Lions International (2003). He is a former Chair of the UBC Foundation. In 2009, Lyall was appointed to the International Joint Commission (IJC) as a Canadian Commissioner, based on his years of distinguished legal and community service. The IJC is an independent, binational organization established by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 to help prevent and resolve

water-related disputes along the boundary between Canada and the United States. Lyall is the Honourary Consul General for The Republic of Tunisia and a member of the British Columbia Consular Corps. He is on Royal Roads University's Fellows Council, an active member of the Vancouver Board of Trade and the Law Society of British Columbia and belongs to the President's Strategic Advisory Council at UBC.

Rick Hansen put it best when he said that "Lyall's sense of humour and the fact that he's fun to work with means that the relationships he builds go beyond just business to include friendship and respect. Lyall is so modest that most people are unaware of all the good that he does. He is truly one of BC's unsung heroes." During the medal presentation, Minister Moore described the recipients as "an inspiration to us all...their contributions have made Canada a better place to live".

*\* The Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal is a commemorative award created to mark the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's ascent to the throne and will honour 60,000 citizens and permanent residents of Canada who have made a significant contribution to their fellow countrymen, their community, or to Canada over the past sixty years. The last time Diamond Jubilee medals were presented was during Queen Victoria's reign in 1867. To be eligible for this honour, a person must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada, must have made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community within Canada, or an achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada. For more information on the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and nomination process, please visit [www.gg.ca](http://www.gg.ca).*