

May 2, 2022

2022 Miracle Award and Life Member Award

VICTORIA, B.C. – Destination Greater Victoria has named Chateau Victoria Hotel & Suites General Manager Brenda Ollis the recipient of the 2022 Miracle Award and Harbour Air Group CEO Randy Wright the recipient of the 2022 Life Member Award. The recipients were announced on Friday, April 29 at Destination Greater Victoria’s Annual General Meeting.

The Miracle Award was established by Destination Greater Victoria in 1982 to award an outstanding individual or group who has shown leadership in the development of tourism in Greater Victoria. Destination Greater Victoria’s Life Member Award recognizes one outstanding individual annually for their exceptional and sustained contributions to the tourism industry and community, as well as the work and reputation of Destination Greater Victoria. The award is among the most prestigious provided by Destination Greater Victoria. The Life Member is invited to attend meetings of the organization, is exempt from dues, and enjoys many of the rights and privileges of full Destination Greater Victoria membership on an ongoing basis.

“Brenda and Randy are very deserving recipients of the Miracle Award and Life Member Award,” said Paul Nurse, CEO – Destination Greater Victoria. “Brenda is a deeply respected hotelier, whose property is famous for a warm Victorian welcome and innovations such as Clive’s Cocktail Lounge. This award is a testament to quiet leadership, deep intelligence and asking important questions in governance roles. Randy has been a tower of leadership in the tourism and transportation sector for several decades. His contributions to both Destination Greater Victoria and the wider visitor economy are immeasurable. Congratulations to Brenda and Randy on the awards.”

“I am honoured to be named the recipient of the 2022 Miracle Award,” said Brenda Ollis, General Manager – Chateau Victoria Hotel & Suites. “I have been happy to volunteer my time to help advance the Greater Victoria tourism and hospitality industries. There are many talented and supportive individuals in our industry, so to be named the recipient of the 2022 Miracle Award means so much. I look forward to continuing our work as we enter what is expected to be a very busy spring and summer.”

“In the many years I have spent working the Greater Victoria tourism industry, I have seen amazing people win the Life Member Award,” said Randy Wright, CEO – Harbour Air Group. “It is a surreal feeling to be named in the same groups as some of the past award recipients. My passion for the industry is still there as well. It’s going to take a few years to build back to 2019 levels and I believe it will happen, with hard work, as there are challenges to solve. People want what we have, to live in one of the greatest places in the world and they want to see it for themselves.”

Past winners of the Destination Greater Victoria Miracle Award can be found here:

<https://www.tourismvictoria.com/corporate-information/miracle-award>

Past winners of the Destination Greater Victoria Life Member Award can be found here:

<https://www.tourismvictoria.com/corporate-information/life-member-awards>

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Destination Greater Victoria (Greater Victoria Visitors and Convention Bureau) is our region's official, not-for-profit destination marketing organization working in partnership with nearly 1,000 businesses and municipalities in Greater Victoria.

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BACKGROUNDER

2022 Miracle Award and Life Member Award recipient biographies:

Brenda Ollis

Brenda Ollis began her hospitality career as an accounting associate for a local Victoria company which owned both the Harbour Towers and the Chateau Victoria Hotels. Within a few short years, Brenda's focus expanded into hotel operations and eventually into her current position as General Manager/Managing Director of the Chateau Victoria Hotel & Suites, which she has held since 1999. Along with her hotel focus, Brenda has actively supported the industry through volunteer roles, which include two separate terms on the Board of Destination Greater Victoria, a long-standing Board position with Hospitality Industrial Relations, and the Board position as Treasurer for the Victoria Hotel Destination Marketing Association, which Brenda has held since its inception in 2011.

Randy Wright

Randy Wright was raised in Victoria and has over 40 years' experience in the travel, tourism, and marine sector. Randy began his career on the dock at Oak Bay Marina, where he moved through the ranks of management into the position of President of Oak Bay Marine Group. Now President of the Harbour Air Group, for over 20 years Randy has overseen the operations, business development and growth of the company that now welcomes more than 500,000 passengers annually. Holding influential positions on Tourism and Transportation Boards including Destination BC, Randy is passionate about the tourism and aviation industry and how Harbour Air can continue to evolve and innovate. Harbour Air's commitment to safety, service and innovation continues to reshape the transportation landscape and foster a collaborative work environment that make it one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies for 11 years and counting. Harbour Air has always had the vision of doing the right thing for our people, communities, and environment. For Randy, the passion of bringing that vision to life, with innovation at its core, has led to Harbour Air being the world's first and only carbon neutral airline, and becoming in future the world's first all-electric commercial airline. Randy continues to work, promote, live, and play in Victoria with his wife Kim and two young children who all share his passion for the outdoors and the Island community.

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