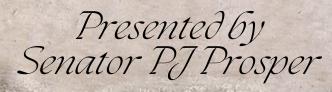




# KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL RECIPIENTS









# ABOUT THE KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL

This medal is awarded to Canadians in recognition of their valuable contributions to their communities and to Canada as a whole.

A limited number of medals were allocated to all sitting Parliamentarians to award. Sen. Prosper would like to thank Senators Greene (NS - Retired) & White (NFLD) for sharing some or all of their allocations with him, enabling him to recognize more people across Mi'kma'ki and Canada.

Historical Notes

The medal program was first announced three days before the Coronation, on 3 May 2023, by the Prime Minister.

The medal was designed by Cathy Bursey-Sabourin, Fraser Herald at the Canadian Heraldic Authority at the Chancellery of Honours, Rideau Hall. The medal is struck in nickelsilver and lacquered to prevent tarnishing. It is manufactured by the Royal Canadian Mint.

# OFFICIAL MESSAGE

By Command of THE KING the Coronation Medal is hereby conferred upon you in commemoration of His Majesty's Coronation as King of Canada and in recognition of your valuable contribution to your country.

Tel-Puatk ELEkE'WIT Wsua'lan ki'l Mikwite'tmaqney Metal wjit Teli-Eleke'wa'luj Eleke'win ula Kanata Aq Mui'walulk ki'l wjit Teli wli-apoqnmatmn Km**i**tki



#### A message from the Senator

#### HOW I APPROACHED NOMINATING RECIPIENTS

An elder once told me that leaders are those who step forward. Our past and future generations bear witness to the decisions leadership makes today. That was why it was important for me to recognize elders, youth, and leaders through this award. I hope that this medal symbolizes the passion, conviction and vision that every recipient has displayed through their work and advocacy throughout the years.

While I have selected many leaders throughout Mi'kmaw Nation, it was important for me to recognize and raise up other Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders throughout Canada, whose contributions have left an indelible mark on our country for the next seven generations. Thank you to each and everyone of you for sharing your spirit and stepping forward.

## LIST OF RECIPIENTS

- 1. Ms. Gillian S. Allen
- 2. Keptin Dr. Stephen J. Augustine
- 3. Mr. Isaiah Bernard
- 4. Chief John Leonard Bernard
- 5. District Chief Alex Christmas
- 6. Ms. Jennifer Copage
- 7. Mr. Rufus Copage
- 8. Ms. Annie Daisley
- 9. Hon. Paul Favel
- 10. Chief Michelle Glasgow
- 11. Chief Robert Gloade
- 12. Mr. Robert Greenley
- 13. Ms. Udloriak Hanson
- 14. Elder Ernest Johnson
- 15. Chief Cory Julian
- 16. Elder Dr. Donald M. Julien
- 17. Mr. Pujjuut Kusugak
- 18. Elder Gordon LaBillois
- 19. Ms. Rosalie LaBillois Wysote
- 20. Ms. Janice Maloney
- 21. Elder Dr. Albert Marshall
- 22. Chief Wilbert Marshall
- 23. Elder Catherine Martin
- 24. Ms. Mary Mason

- 25. Dr. Jane McMillan
- 26. Keptin Dr. Fred Metallic
- 27. Mr. James A. Michael
- 28. Mr. Albert Netser
- 29. Regional Chief Andrea Paul
- 30. Elder Edward Perley
- 31. Chief Sidney Peters
- 32. District Chief Dr. Sherry Pictou
- 33. Elder Agnes Potter
- 34. Chief Carol D. Potter
- 35. Keptin John R. Prosper
- 36. Chief Deborah Robinson
- 37. Dr. Viola Robinson
- 38. Ms. Adelheid Ruppenstein
- 39. Ms. Claudine Santos
- 40. Dr. Brian Steeves
- 41. Keptin Chief Gerald B. Toney
- 42. Dr. Rongo H. Wetere
- 43. Elder Dr. Calvin White
- 44. Mr. Bruce H. Wildsmith
- 45. Mr. Tuma Young
- 46. Dr. Sakej Youngblood Henderson
- 47. Mr. Eric Zscheile

# MS. GILLIAN S. ALLEN

#### Nova Scotia

Ms. Allen has dedicated over 30 years supporting Mi'kmaw Nation as a seasoned historical researcher in the areas of (but not limited to) Aboriginal title, Aboriginal rights, and treaty rights research, negotiation, and litigation.

#### KEPTIN DR. STEPHEN J. AUGUSTINE Nova Scotia

Dr. Augustine has shared his expertise in research and traditional knowledge across Canada. A former professor, an author, he has been recorded for radio and video programs on traditional knowledge, Maritimes history and treaties, and storytelling. He has served as a Keptin of the Grand Council since 1989.

## MR. ISAIAH BERNARD

#### Nova Scotia

Mr. Bernard is a youth leader. He is a council member in his community of Potlotek, is the President of the Wabanaki Youth Council and is the fourth Mi'kmaq and second Nova Scotian to serve as the Assembly of First Nations Youth Council Co-Chair.

## CHIEF JOHN LEONARD BERNARD

#### Nova Scotia

Chief Bernard is a former council member and former Interim Chief. He was was elected in October 2024 as Chief of We'koqma'q. Chief Bernard currently serves as Co-Lead of the Justice Portfolio with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

# DISTRICT CHIEF ALEX CHRISTMAS

#### Nova Scotia

Mr. Christmas currently serves as District Chief of the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq. He has served as former President of the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq, under its former name, Union of Nova Scotia Indians, and has served on many boards over his career.

## MS. JENNIFER COPAGE

#### Nova Scotia

Ms. Copage supported the Aboriginal Title Project (ATP), a joint initiative of the Union of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq, transcribing traditional knowledge interviews. She has dedicated over 25 years supporting Mi'kmaw Nation.

#### MR. RUFUS COPAGE Nova Scotia

Mr. Copage is a former United States Marine, former Youth Support worker with Mi'kmaw Family & Children Services of Nova Scotia, and former Chief of Sipekne'katik. He currently serves as council member of Sipekne'katik First Nation.

#### MS. ANNIE DAISLEY Nova Scotia

Ms. Daisley was elected in 2020 as the first woman Chief of We'koqma'q, former council member for three terms, former President of the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association, former Co-Chair of the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs. She is a strong advocate locally, provincially and nationally on matters related to Missing and Murdered Women and Girls.

# HON. PAUL FAVEL, K.C.

#### Ontario

A current Federal Court Justice, Hon. Favel's former work specialized in Aboriginal law with an emphasis on corporate and commercial law related to First Nations economic development. He acted as legal counsel to various First Nations, advising on issues such as land designations, leases for commercial developments, land claims, and self-government negotiations.

## CHIEF MICHELLE GLASGOW

#### Nova Scotia

Elected in November 2022 as the first woman Chief of Sipekne'katik. Chief Glasgow currently serves as Co-Lead for the Children, Youth, Families, and Gender, the Economic Development and Benefits, the Education, the Emergency Management and Crisis, the Health, Wellbeing, and Elders Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

#### CHIEF ROBERT GLOADE Nova Scotia

Chief Gloade has served as Chief of Millbrook First Nation for 14 years, he has served as former council member for 12 years. Chief Gloade's extensive experience in business has helped him guide his community in new business initiatives. He currently serves as Co-Lead of the Economic Development and Benefits Portfolio with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

# MR. ROBERT GREENLEY Nunavut

Mr. Greenley is the President of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association in western Nunavut. Prior to that, he served 8 years as the Chair of the Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization. He has worked in various positions and trades, contributing to his well-rounded, empathetic approach to complex, major issues such as poverty and homelessness.

# MS. UDLORIAK HANSON Nunavut

Ms. Hanson is a former Deputy Minister of ED&T with the Government of Nunavut. She has served in various organizations including NTI and ITK. She led the development of Qaujisaqtit Society, Nunavut's first charitable Consortium of non-profits, and was integral in the launching of the Annauma Community Foundation, the first Community Foundation in Nunavut.

## ELDER ERNEST JOHNSON Nova Scotia

Elder Johnson was the former Vice President of the Union of Nova Scotia Indians, former Vice President and served as Elder for the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources, he currently serves on the Elder's Advisory Council for Mi'kmawey Debert. The concept of Netukulimk and Mi'kmaq land-based education are some of the areas he shares traditional knowledge.

# CHIEF CORY JULIAN

#### Nova Scotia

Chief Julian was elected in November 2023 as Chief of Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation. Prior to that, he served as Interim Chief and was a former council member. Chief Julian is the current Co-Lead of the Environment, Energy and Mines, the Housing and Infrastructure and Natural Resources Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

## ELDER DR. DONALD M. JULIEN

#### Nova Scotia

Dr. Julien served as former Executive Director of The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmag. He is a Mi'kmaw historian, human rights advocate, speaker, and peace time veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces. Dr. Julien currently serves as Elder in Residence at The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmag.

#### MR. PUJJUUT KUSUGAK Nunavut

Mr. Kusugak is a former teacher, former Director of Language and Cultural Development with the Kivallig Inuit Association, former Hamlet Councilor and Mayor for Rankin Inlet, former Deputy Minister of Education for the Government of Nunavut and is currently the Director of Nunavut operations for Agnico Eagle.

## ELDER GORDON LABILLOIS

#### New Brunswick

Elder LaBillois serves on the Board of Directors for the North Shore Mi'kmag Tribal Council. Climate change, sea level rise, species at risk, and traditional Mi'kmag ways to view and care for the land are some of the areas where he shares traditional knowledge. He currently serves as Elder with Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'tagnn Incorporated.

# MS. ROSALIE LABILLOIS WYSOTE

#### New Brunswick

Ms. LaBillois Wysote is a youth leader. She serves as the current Youth Engagement Officer at Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation, the current New Brunswick Representative and former Assembly of First Nations Youth Council Co-Chair.

#### MS. JANICE MALONEY, K.C. Nova Scotia

Ms. Maloney has served at the Nova Scotia Legal Aid, in private practice, at the Nova Scotia Native Women's Association and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmag where she helped develop the Mi'kmag Legal Support Network and Mi'kmag Wills Kits. She is currently the Executive Director of the Mi'kmag Rights Initiative.

# ELDER DR. ALBERT MARSHALL

#### Nova Scotia

Dr. Marshall's work has focused on preserving, strengthening and spreading Mi'kmaq culture, language, values and concepts. He is an author and co-creator of the Etuaptmumk/Two-Eyed Seeing guiding principle. He currently serves as Elder with Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources.

#### CHIEF WILBERT MARSHALL Nova Scotia

Chief Wilbert Marshall first served as Chief of Potlotek from 2002 to 2008 and was elected again in 2010. He has held the position since then, more than once being re-elected by acclamation. Chief Marshall is currently Co-Lead of the Culture, Heritage and Archaeology, the Fisheries, and the Housing and Infrastructure Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

# ELDER CATHERINE MARTIN

Nova Scotia

Elder Martin is an independent international award winning film producer and director, a writer, facilitator, community activist, teacher, drummer, advocate for Indigenous arts, education, language and human rights. She is recognized as the first Mi'kmaw filmmaker from the Atlantic region.

#### MS. MARY MASON Nova Scotia

Ms. Mason has supported Mi'kmaw Nation for many years while serving as an independent consultant at The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq. She has provided support and expertise on many initiatives.

## DR. JANE MCMILLAN Nova Scotia

Dr. McMillan is a legal anthropologist whose interdisciplinary research investigates Mi'kmaq strategies of treaty implementation, rights negotiation, social capital expansion and how they are translated into legitimate actions within Mi'kmaq ecological knowledge, governance, jurisprudence and sociocultural perceptions and practices.

# KEPTIN DR. FRED METALLIC *Quebec*

Dr. Metallic, is one of the leaders behind his community's fishing laws. He chronicled the history of Listuguj's right to fish. He traced the timeline of his community's laws and jurisdiction while recognizing the role of oral tradition, land, and Listuguj's philosophy in its law and treatymaking. He has served as a Keptin of the Grand Council since 2008.

# MR. JAMES A. MICHAEL, K.C. Nova Scotia

Mr. Michael was called to the bar in 1993 where he became the first Mi'kmaw lawyer in Nova Scotia. Former co-manager of the Aboriginal Title Project (ATP), a joint initiative of the Union of Nova Scotia Indians and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq. Former Director of the Treaty & Aboriginal Rights Research Centre of NS. He also served to two terms on the Sipekne'katik Band Council.

# MR. ALBERT NETSER Nunavut

Mr. Netser serves as the current Dean of Trades and Technology at Nunavut Arctic College. His years-long advocacy changed the education system in a way that recognizes and accredits Inuit students based on practical skills assessments, as tests, enabling the formal recognition of Inuit ways of knowing, learning and teaching for a strong, certified Inuit workforce in Nunavut.

# REGIONAL CHIEF ANDREA PAUL Nova Scotia

Regional Chief Paul was elected as the first woman Regional Chief of Nova Scotia in 2023. Previously, she served as Chief of Pictou Landing First Nation for 12 years where she played a prominent role in successfully advocating to stop the decades-long dumping of effluent into Boat Harbour.

# ELDER EDWARD PERLEY

#### New Brunswick

Elder Perley is a teacher, drummer, singer, fire keeper, he helps to promote ceremony and culture. He currently serves as Elder in Residence for Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick where he provides guidance and an Indigenous perspective.

# CHIEF SIDNEY PETERS

#### Nova Scotia

Chief Peters has worked in Aboriginal housing with various organizations including Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Native Council of Nova Scotia, and The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq where he served as the Manager of Lands, Environment, and Natural Resources. In 2012, he was elected as Chief of Glooscap First Nation and serves as Co-Chair of the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

#### DISTRICT CHIEF DR. SHERRY PICTOU Nova Scotia

District Chief for the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq, former Chief of Bear River First Nation, current professor at Dalhousie University. Dr. Pictou is the Research Chair in Indigenous Governance where her research program seeks to address concerns about the limited participation of Indigenous women in governance and decision-making processes.

#### ELDER AGNES POTTER Nova Scotia

Ms. Potter is Elder for the Native Women's Association of Nova Scotia, Elder of the East with the Native Women's Association of Canada. She is well known for her craftmanship and has spent all her life helping others. She currently serves on the Elder's Advisory Council for Mi'kmawey Debert.

## CHIEF CAROL D. POTTER

#### Nova Scotia

Chief Potter was elected in 2011 as Chief of Bear River First Nation. Previously, she has served at the Native Council of Nova Scotia, as BRFN Employment Officer and in the area of education. Chief Potter currently serves as Co-Lead of the Culture, Heritage and Archaeology, the Environment, Energy and Mines and the Social Assistance Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

#### KEPTIN ELDER JOHN R. PROSPER *Nova Scotia*

Elder Prosper is a community archivist, musician, and author. He served Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation as Band Manger and Welfare Officer for 5 years then served full time in the role of Band Manager for a total of 41 years. He has served as Keptin of the Grand Council since 1993.

#### CHIEF DEBORAH ROBINSON Nova Scotia

Chief Robinson was first elected as Chief of Acadia First Nation (now known as Wasoqopa'q First Nation) in 1987 and was recognized by the AFN as one of the longest serving chiefs in Canada. Chief Robinson is currently the Co-Lead of the Children, Youth, Families and Gender Diversity, and the Governance Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

#### DR. VIOLA ROBINSON Nova Scotia

Dr. Robinson has worked for Mi'kmaq people and for the human rights of First Nations across the country, a founding and long-time president of the Native Council of Nova Scotia and the Native Council of Canada, Senior Mi'kmaq Advisor on the Negotiations Team with the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative. Prior to retiring she served as Chief Lead Negotiator.

#### MS. ADELHEID RUPPENSTEIN Ontario

# Ms. Ruppenstein has served in social work positions, including Case Manager/Therapist for Family and Children Services for the District of Rainy River. She has volunteered with the Rainy River District Crisis Intervention Team, the Canadian Mental Health Association Board, and the Ontario Special Olympics. She served 16 years supporting now retired Senator Greene.

#### MS. CLAUDINE SANTOS Ontario

Ms. Santos has served her community for 32 years in various philanthropic endeavors including organizing the fundraising to build an orphanage in Guatemala at age 8. She has founded and served as Chair/President of various organizations in BC and Ontario. During the pandemic, she helped deliver 1.5M masks and 6500L of hand sanitizer to Indigenous, northern and remote communities. She is the first Filipino director to serve in the Senate.

#### DR. BRIAN STEEVES Nova Scotia

Dr. Steeves retired after serving 49 years practicing medicine in Antigonish, serving patients at his family practice, serving as Medical Examiner for 25 years and served as head of Emergency Care for the former Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority (GASHA).

## KEPTIN CHIEF GERALD B. TONEY Nova Scotia

Elected as Chief of Annapolis Valley First Nation in 2015, he formerly served as council member for a combined six years. He has served as Keptin of the Grand Council since 2019. Chief Toney is currently the Co-Lead of the Fisheries and Natural Resources Portfolios with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs.

# DR. RONGO H. WETERE *Ontario*

Dr. Wetere is of Ngāti Maniapoto descent, is one of the founders of the Te Wananga o Aotearoa (TWoA) tertiary institution in New Zealand. He was previously chair of the Māori Employment and Training Commission. Since moving to Canada, he has focused his efforts on revitalizing Indigenous languages and improving literacy and numeracy amongst Indigenous Canadians.

# ELDER DR. CALVIN WHITE

#### Newfoundland

Dr. White is a former Chief of Flat Bay Band, former president of the Federation of Newfoundland Indians. He has spent over 50 years advocating for Indigenous recognition and rights in Newfoundland and Labrador. He is a current member of the Knowledge Keepers Council for the Assembly of First Nations.

#### MR. BRUCE H. WILDSMITH, K.C. Nova Scotia

Mr. Wildsmith served as legal counsel with the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs and the Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office and as lead negotiator for the Assembly. A former law professor at Dalhousie University, since 1974, he has advocated for Indigenous rights in a number of Supreme Court cases, including *Simon v. The Queen* in 1985.

# MR. TUMA YOUNG, K.C.

#### Nova Scotia

Mr. Young was called to the bar in 2001, he is the first Mi'kmaw-speaking lawyer in Nova Scotia. In 2021, Mr. Young became the first Indigenous and openly 2SLGBTQ+ President of the Nova Scotia Barrister's Society. Mr. Young teaches Mi'kmaq Studies at Cape Breton University and is co-founder of the Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance.

# DR. SAKEJ YOUNGBLOOD HENDERSON

#### Nova Scotia

Dr. Henderson has worked to protect Indigenous heritage and culture through legal means. He has taught law at Universities, and at other North American law schools. Throughout his career, he has authored many legal documents, novels, articles and other works focused on Indigenous heritage, culture, and legal rights, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

#### MR. ERIC ZSCHEILE Nova Scotia

Mr. Zscheile served as one of Donald Marshall Junior's lawyers in the historic Marshall case over 25 years ago. Currently, he works as a lawyer for the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative, a group that represents the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Chiefs at the negotiation table.

