

2022 - Chris O'Dea

Nomination

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Chris O'Dea as recipient of the first "Trinity Historical Society – Loyal Trinity Volunteer Ranger Award".

I personally have known Chris and consider him a close friend for close to 60 years. Chris as you see him today is the same as he was when we first became friends as teenagers. Chris is best described as the quintessential True Gentleman. If ever you needed a friend or are in need Chris would be and still is today the first person at your door to help.

These personality traits however are overshadowed by his desire to volunteer for worthwhile community based projects. Once he joins a group he can be depended upon to devote his time, effort and skill sets to enhance that organization.

Chris has been a part time resident of Trinity for over 40 years. During this time, he has restored two homes and a forge. He still has offered his time to be an active volunteer in the following Trinity specific projects to enhance the area.

- Founding Chair of the Trinity Trust – Rebuilding of Lester Garland House
- Chairman of Trinity Historical Society Auction for over 20 years raising over \$250,000.00 during this period
- Auctioneer for all auctions
- Member of the Town of Trinity Heritage Committee which reviews all building permits to ensure adherence to historic town plan
- Restored three historic buildings in Trinity
- Actively given advice and direction to numerous residents who needed advice on restoring buildings not only in Trinity but the entire Bight.

In addition to the Trinity specific volunteering Chris has contributed to many worthwhile organizations and groups that enhance the province. Some of these organizations include:

- President of Nfld Historic Trust and the Southcott Awards
- Member of Arts Advisory Council
- Board of Community Service Council
- Board St. Clare's Hospital Foundation
- Board member Art Gallery of Nfld and Labrador
- Vice Chair 1st MacPherson Scouts

And on and on, these are just a few of many organizations Chris has been a part of and helped.

It gives great pleasure to nominate Chris as a well deserving first recipient of this award.

Chris O'Dea's Bio

Mr. Chris O'Dea was born on December 20, 1949. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Memorial University of Newfoundland. He also graduated from the South West Ontario School of Auctioneering and is an accredited personal property appraiser, having successfully completed the Canadian Personal Appraisal Course. He is a member of the Auctioneering Association of Canada.

His business career is varied. He served as both Director of Sales and Director of Marketing with NewTel and served for three years as the President of a local high tech contract manufacturing firm, NewTech Instruments. He spent almost two decades with Nortel and assumed the responsibility of Asst. Vice President for Newfoundland and Labrador. In the later part of his corporate career he was the Director of Internet for Aliant.

He has been very active in the community for many years and has served on the following voluntary committees: President of Newfoundland Historic Trust and Chair of the Southcott Awards Committee; member of the Arts Advisory Council for the City of St. John's; member of the Board of Directors of the Community Services Council; member of St. John's Board of Trade; member of the Canadian Progress Club; member of the board for St. Clare's Hospital Health Foundation; Chair of Finance for the Nfld. and Labrador Drama Festival; Guest Curator for the MUN Art Gallery for the Historic Hayward and Bradshaw Exhibitions; member of the fundraising committee for the restoration of Cabot Tower; founding Chairman of the Trinity Trust; Chairman of the NewTel Atlantic Cup; and a member of the Advisory Board of the MUN School of Business. He has also served as a member of the Arts and Letters Committee that is sponsored by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Film Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

In 2001, Chris, along with support from his spouse Margaret, chose to pursue the field of Auctioneering and Appraisal and Real Estate, out of personal interest and out of a genuine interest to continue in the sales and marketing field.

Chris continues to volunteer as a member of the Trinity Historical Society as its Auctioneer helping to raise now close to \$300,000 over the last twenty-three years; serves on the Town of Trinity Heritage Committee and is busy with his real estate business and Air BnB in Trinity which is located in a restored Forge that he largely completed himself.