

VIC HIGH ALUMNI ROGER SKILLINGS RECEIVES CARING CANADIAN AWARD

Roger Skillings, former Chair of the Victoria High School Alumni Association, was one of five Victorians recently presented with the Caring Canadian Award by Lieutenant-Governor Judith Guichon at the Pacific Institute for Sports Excellence.

All five, including President and Chief Executive Officer George Heller, Chair John Walton, Liz Ashton and Keith Dagg were recognized for their major contributions to the hugely successful XV Commonwealth Games held in Victoria in the summer of 1994.



The Caring Canadian Award, which consists of a pin and certificate, was established in 1995 by then-Governor-General Romeo LeBlanc in recognition of significant, sustained, unpaid contribution to their community and Canada.

Not only was Skillings' volunteerism significant and sustained, but it was numerous and varied.

For 22 years, he was President and CEO of provincial and national sports organizations. A two-time national junior tennis champion, Skillings was also President and CEO of the Commonwealth Centre for Sports Development, Canadian Sports Centre Pacific and the B.C. Games Society (1987-1998).

A Vic High grad from the Class of '68, Skillings also served on the board of Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, chaired the Greater Victoria Development Agency and is presently on the Telus Victoria Community board.

He is a member of the Oak Bay Tennis Club and is also presently president of Tennis BC, requiring frequent trips to Vancouver as well as eastern Canada. Skillings was the organization's provincial coach in the 1970s. As if that wasn't enough of his time, Skillings coaches at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre as well as other venues.