

Order of the NWT 2019 Recipient Summaries

Mrs. Lyda Fuller

Mrs. Fuller is a resident of Yellowknife and is nominated for her work in *public service*. Lyda has dedicated her life and career to helping women and families. She is the Executive Director of the YWCA NWT and is an advocate for services and programs that increase the safety for women and families throughout the north. Lyda understands the power of collaboration and partnerships. She makes regular visits to Capital Hill, is an advocate for better housing in the NWT and for better support for women experiencing violence. Lyda is known across Canada for her work with women and families and has been formally recognized with the NWT Wise Women Award, Cleta Herman Award, and the Women of the Year Award. She has helped strengthen not only the YWCA shelter in Yellowknife, but also those in Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk and the YWCA Aggviik in Nunavut. Lyda's determination, persistence, dedication, and experience has changed the lives of women and families across the NWT and Canada. She has played a key role in shaping the success of the YWCA NWT to provide needed services for the NWTs most vulnerable people. Healthy women and families mean healthy communities, and Lyda is an inspiring role model who finds creative solutions to what can seem like impossible challenges.

Mr. Joe McBryan

Mr. McBryan is a resident of Hay River and is nominated for his work in *business*. Joe McBryan, aka Buffalo Joe, has been in business for over 50 years in the competitive aviation market flying a fleet of DC-3's and DC-4's in the NWT. His generosity has helped families in need, provided sports teams and schools discounted fares, and assisted Elders when they were short on airfare. Joe is passionate about the North, its people, and it's potential. His approach is to invest in our people and our northern businesses. Ice Pilots NWT made Buffalo Airways and Buffalo Joe a household name, and six season later brought tourists to meet Joe and see his amazing fleet of aircraft. Mr. McBryan started Joe's Aviation School in Yellowknife and trained a number of individuals as aircraft technicians. All of Joe's last graduation class now work at Buffalo Airways. Joe's contribution to the life and culture of the people of the Northwest Territories is embodied in the type of person he is and what he and his business do for the people of the North. His gestures, often times, go unnoticed and are unbiased, and its only through "Buffalo Joe Stories" that he gets the recognition that he deserves.