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November 3, 2023

Board of Directors:

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During a dinner presentation at the House of Ancestors, Active Support Against Poverty (ASAP) received the 2nd Annual Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference.

D.A.R.T. (Drug Awareness Recovery Team) celebrated its 25th anniversary last year and the organization honored its inspirational founder Bob Scott by establishing an annual community award known as the **Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference.** The inaugural recipient of the award was UNBC's Dr. Theresa Healy.

The **Bob Scott Award – Making a Difference** is awarded annually to an individual(s), business, organization or agency that exemplifies integrity, leadership and inspiration in contributing to the betterment of the Prince George community and thereby **Making a Difference!**

Active Support Against Poverty was founded in the late 1980's. Originally created to advocate for the rights of individuals on welfare and other financially disadvantaged citizens of Prince George, ASAP over the years has expanded to address many of the challenges experienced by our homeless and at-risk population.

Recognizing the need for safe and clean places for the homeless, this organization started operating short term, winter shelters. In 2001, funding was sought to renovate the Jacobs Inn to provide 16 low-income apartments. A few years later, Bridget Moran was built. This building was created with the intention of providing a number of services which were lacking. On one side of the building is a 45-bed shelter and above it is two floors of subsidized housing for at-risk members of our community. The other side of the building is the office which provides:

Free tax preparation Legal advocacy

Homeless Prevention Program Clothing

Message board Mail service as well as other services

In 2022, in collaboration with Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), operation of the 1st Avenue housing project was started. This project provides housing that is enhanced by on-site members trained in mental health issues.

Two long-time members of this organization are Audrey Schwartz and Doug Tedford. Both Audrey and Doug joined this organization in the early 1990's. Audrey was the Executive Director for just over 30 years when she retired last year and Doug is still a member of their board of directors and still doing taxes for free.



Kim DeMeyer, Executive Director, ASAP:

"It is such an honour to be nominated for the Bob Scott award. Mr. Scott's commitment to improving the lives of the most vulnerable members of our community is an inspiration to all those striving to make a positive difference.

By creating DART, Bob Scott did not just give people jobs, he helped instill the confidence and pride that comes from being productive members of the community by providing the skills and supports to be successful.

ASAP was created with the same vision – to assist those who were feeling powerless by providing them with the tools and means to move forward into a healthier and more rewarding life – and to be recognized by DART, which has contributed to and enriched our community for over 25 years, is truly an honour."

Kim DeMeyer Executive Director

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D.A.R.T. was developed by Bob Scott (a recovering addict) in 1997 to meet the needs of those in recovery, to offer them equal access, healthy personal connections and a sense of control, to fill the gap in the drug and alcohol service industry and to integrate members of this subculture back into the community as full participants. In October 2000 D.A.R.T. was registered as a community Millennium Project. In December 2000 it was incorporated as a Society. In 2004, Bob received the **British Columbia Community Achievement Award** for his spirit, dedication, imagination and contribution to his community.

The Bob Scott - Making a Difference award is a hand-blown glass artwork, conveying the sense of a flame in motion rising from a torch symbolizing the legacy that Bob Scott passed on. It is a light meant to inspire change and build hope for those fighting to change their own lives and the lives of others (in Bob's case, the grip of addictions). The flame also symbolizes the fire that consumes and then rebirths the Phoenix. This reminds us how addiction can destroy us, but we can come out of this destructive cycle and give back to society.

