

November 23, 2026

RE: Bertha Ford SAPAA Lifetime Achievement Award

Please be advised that RDRN is very pleased to support the presentation of your inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award to Bertha Ford.

Bertha has been a long-time member of RDRN and was very active for many years as the Speaker Coordinator. She not only arranged excellent speakers but also hosted the speakers for dinner and then was on hand prior to the meeting to welcome both members and the public.

Bertha also assisted with the 2006 Canadian Nature Federation Conference that was held in Red Deer and participated in many other RDRN activities, including May Species Counts, Flower Focus outings, Christmas Bird Counts, field trips and Saturday morning bird walks. She especially liked joining in on the Saturday morning Bird Walks, where she was a regular and enthusiastic attendee for many years.

Always a voice for nature, Bertha has kept up on current issues and has been faithful at writing letters regarding various topics. Most recently, she supported the Waskasoo Community Association's efforts to oppose the development of the former school lands along 45 Avenue (the East Lincoln Development proposals). She both attended hearings and provided letters of support.

Bertha was a strong supporter of SAPAA and attended most of their meetings. With her late husband, Harry, she became a Steward of the Kootenay Plains Ecological Reserve in 1998. On her more than 150 visits, Bertha collected information, took photos and submitted reports. She decided, in 2002, to start a bluebird trail along the section of highway within the Reserve. She faithfully monitored the trail each summer and collected important nest productivity data.

Many of Bertha's photos are included on a page dedicated to the Red Deer River on RDRN's website.

Bertha is very deserving of this recognition, and we are pleased to support her receiving a SAPAA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Myrna Pearman
President