

## Recognition of Founders 2018

### Citation for Mr. Darryl Guignon and Dr. Ian MacQuarrie

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It is my great pleasure this afternoon to present to you the University of Prince Edward Island's 2018 Founders—Mr. Darryl Guignon and Dr. Ian MacQuarrie, both retired faculty members from the University.

Mr. Guignon and Dr. MacQuarrie have made impressive and significant impacts on ecological and wildlife conservation efforts in Prince Edward Island. They taught courses which instilled a conservation ethic, collaborated on land use and conservation initiatives, and raised public consciousness in these areas. As a result, their legacy is generations of students who went on to prominent positions helping to make changes towards sustainable use of natural resources.

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A wildlife biologist, researcher, and teacher, Mr. Guignon feels a strong connection with the natural world. He grew up in a wilderness area, in what is now Quebec's Forillon National Park, where he spent most of his childhood in the forest, rivers, and beaches. His childhood instilled in him a great respect and love for nature and inspired him to make conservation his life's work.

Mr. Guignon is first and foremost an inspirational leader, both at UPEI and in the broader conservation community on Prince Edward Island. He has spent a lifetime working with educators, policy-makers, and community organizations to encourage more respect and protection for the natural environment.

As a faculty member in UPEI's biology department from 1967–2008, he motivated many of his students to be conservationists and biologists. He inspired his students to view their environment through a sensitive lens that strengthens their understanding of how they are affected by the natural world, and how they are totally dependent on it.

In addition to educating university students, he has made literally hundreds of presentations to school and community groups about major threats to fragile ecosystems in the belief that one of the best ways to increase awareness and encourage change is through education.

Mr. Guignon is widely respected for his ongoing work to conserve and enhance natural areas and fish habitat. He researches wildlife and their ecosystems, and investigates factors limiting wild salmon production on Prince Edward Island. Instrumental in setting up the Island Nature Trust in 1979, a non-government organization dedicated to the protection and management of natural areas on PEI, he continues to work with other such groups to develop and implement watershed plans. He works closely with the West River Watershed group, particularly its project to restock the river with Atlantic salmon.

He was instrumental in establishing the Morell River Management Co-op. He lobbied government to conserve waterways for trout and salmon and worked to establish the Morell River Conservation Zone. For his dedication to the conservation and protection of the Morell River, a section of the river was named Darryl's Reach in April of 2014.

He was honoured by the UPEI Student Union in 2005 with a Faculty of the Year award, and received a "Merit Award for Excellence in Teaching" in 1994. He also received Fisheries and Oceans' National

Recreational Fisheries Award in 2012 and the Prince Edward Island Environmental Award in 2000 for his individual contributions to the environment.

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Dr. Ian MacQuarrie was born in Hampton, Prince Edward Island, on the family farm. He was educated at Dalhousie University and King's College, London. He has a lifelong interest in P.E.I. flora, landscape, folklore, wildlife, resources, and natural areas.

Dr. MacQuarrie was the founding president of the Island Nature Trust. It was his vision that enabled this group of active citizens to take action to acquire natural areas for conservation of the best remaining habitats in the province. His persistent belief that the future lay in the wise use of soil and water resources is legendary.

A professor of biology at Saint Dunstan's University and subsequently at UPEI, he was highly recognized and appreciated for his efforts in expanding field curriculum content and inspiring the imaginations of his students in land and water conservation.

One student he inspired is the Honourable Diane Griffin, now one of Prince Edward Island's four representatives in Canada's Senate. During her time as a student at Saint Dunstan's University, Senator Griffin spent the summer of 1966 working with Dr. Ian MacQuarrie. Based on that experience, she went on to graduate with a degree in biology, taught biology in high school, completed a master of science degree in biology, and became Executive Director of the Island Nature Trust, and eventually Deputy Minister of the PEI Department of Environmental Resources. Senator Griffin is just one example of many students who were mentored by, and credit their career success, to Dr. MacQuarrie.

Dr. MacQuarrie has contributed to provincial, regional, and national efforts to preserve the environment and is highly sought by governments and non-governmental organizations alike for his expertise. He served as co-chair of the International Biological Program, chairman of the province of Prince Edward Island's land use commission, and chair of the Public Forest Council, to name a few leadership roles. A prolific writer, he has authored, edited, and contributed to numerous publications.

He has been recognized for his work with several awards, including the Rotary Club of Charlottetown Royalty 2006 Mentor Award and the Island Nature Trust's 1998 Hon. J. Angus Maclean Natural Areas Award for his lifetime efforts toward the protection of natural areas.

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A number of years ago, a scholarship was established by past students, colleagues, friends, and family to honour the work of Mr. Guignon and Dr. MacQuarrie. The Daryl Guignon and Ian MacQuarrie Graduate Scholarship in Science is granted to a first-year student in a Master of Science program at UPEI who will conduct a research program focused on the ecology and status of natural habitats and/or native wildlife.

For their enduring legacy and contributions to UPEI and to the conservation of our beautiful province, the University of Prince Edward Island is honoured to name Mr. Daryl Guignon and Dr. Ian MacQuarrie its 2018 Founders.