

## Citation for Dr. Kathy Martin for a UPEI Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr. Kathy Martin is an award-winning Professor of Wildlife Ecology in the Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences at the University of British Columbia, and simultaneously a Senior Research Scientist with Environment and Climate Change Canada (now Emeritus). She is a global authority on Arctic and alpine grouse, and temperate forest songbirds.

A native and current resident of Stanhope, Prince Edward Island, Dr. Martin graduated from the University of Prince Edward Island with her Bachelor of Science in 1970. She completed her MSc at the University of Alberta in 1973, and defended her PhD on the ecology of Arctic ptarmigan under the supervision of Dr. Fred Cooke at Queen's University in 1985.

For more than four decades, Dr. Martin has been a leader in Canada's conservation biology research and in the higher education community, serving on national and international government and professional society committees. Her leadership activities include representing Canada since 1996 on the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Species Survival Commission for grouse. She is the past president of both the Canadian and American Ornithological Societies and was a founding member of the Canadian Society of Ecology and Evolution in 2005. During the 2000s, she also served on the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Ecology and Evolution Grant Selection Committee, including one year as chair of the committee.

In 1992, as an assistant professor at the University of Toronto, Dr. Martin developed and taught one of the first undergraduate courses in Conservation Biology in Canada. Today, Dr. Martin continues to direct two ongoing, long-term research programs that she founded in Canada. The first, on the ecology and life history variation of alpine birds, began in 1980 in northern Canada and has since expanded to sites in Australia and Chile, while the second, examining the structure and function of tree cavity-nesting vertebrate communities, commenced in 1995 and has expanded to other sites across North and South America.

Since 1981, Dr. Martin has published more than 230 peer-reviewed journal articles, research papers, and book chapters on avian ecology, behaviour, life history, and conservation, ranging from alpine and Arctic grouse to tree cavity-nesting forest bird communities in the Americas. She has also been associate editor for *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, *The Auk*, *The Condor*, *Avian Conservation and Ecology*, and other scientific journals throughout her distinguished career.

Dr. Martin has worked tirelessly on behalf of the ornithological community in Canada and internationally. She has been the recipient of multiple awards including:

- The Doris Huestis Speirs Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Canadian Ornithology, from the Society of Canadian Ornithologists in 2008;
- The Ian McTaggart-Cowan Lifetime Achievement Award from The Wildlife Society in 2016;
- And two of the oldest Ornithological Research Awards: the Godman Salvin Prize (established in 1919) for Distinguished Ornithological Work and Contributions to the Ornithological

Community from the British Ornithologists' Union in 2018, and a William Brewster Memorial Award (established in 1921) from the American Ornithological Society in 2021.

In 2020, the Government of Canada awarded Dr. Martin the Nancy B. Cutler Citation of Excellence: Women in Science and Technology Award for her invaluable role in furthering conservation science in Canada.

Dr. Martin's contributions to ornithology extend well beyond her research endeavours. To date, she has trained more than 75 undergraduate students, 35 graduate students, and 20 post-doctoral fellows, most of whom have continued into careers in ornithology. In 2021, she received the Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award from the Society of Canadian Ornithologists in recognition of her excellence in mentoring a new generation of professional and amateur biologists.

For her dedication and leadership in the ornithology community and for her tremendous contributions to her field of scientific study, the UPEI Alumni Association is proud to present Dr. Kathy Martin with a 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award.