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39th Annual
Awards & Appreciation
Celebrating Community
Excellence



PRESENTED BY
Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

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President's Message

Congratulations to all the award recipients as we celebrate community excellence. It was unfortunate that last year's event needed to be canceled. Fast forward to today, we are pleased to offer a modified means to highlight the businesses, groups and individuals that have gone above and beyond; to recognize the determination, passion and successes made for both the 2019 and 2020 year.

For this presentation, the Chamber has chosen to team up with the Town of Coaldale so that recipients of special recognition can all be honoured at the same time. To the recipients I would like to say that you have made us proud. Your pursuit of excellence is helping Coaldale to continue to be a great place to live and do business. I congratulate you on your successes and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We sincerely thank all sponsors and would like to recognize the organizing committee under the leadership of Robert Woolf for its hard work.

René van de Vendel
President
Coaldale Chamber of Commerce



Mayor's Message

Town Council extends sincere congratulations to all the award recipients and is pleased to be co-hosting this Awards and Appreciation event with the Coaldale Chamber of Commerce. While it would be great to have our community come together in celebration of individual and collective successes, we move forward using an alternative form of acknowledgment.

For several years now, Coaldale has been growing at a truly admirable rate. Every year, more people choose to make Coaldale the place that they live and where they raise their families. Businesses are being opened in town, and business owners are choosing to move their operations to our community. This growth is reflective of the pride we all feel in this community, which is on full display when we celebrate and honour members of our community.

We know that Coaldale's recent success is dependent on the contributions of individual residents, not-for-profit associations, and local businesses who work tirelessly to make this community great. We are honored to be able to celebrate their achievements and to recognize them for their incredible work.

Kim Craig
Mayor
Town of Coaldale



Honoured Guest

Rachael Harder, MP

As a dedicated listener and skilled advocate, Rachael has served as a powerful voice for the Lethbridge riding since she was first elected in 2015.

As the Member of Parliament for Lethbridge, Rachael is committed to putting people first. Every year, she attends as many events as possible throughout the riding, tours dozens of local businesses and organizations, and meets one-on-one with hundreds of constituents.

Empowered by the stories people share with her, Rachael is able to put a human face to government policies when she speaks in the House of Commons.

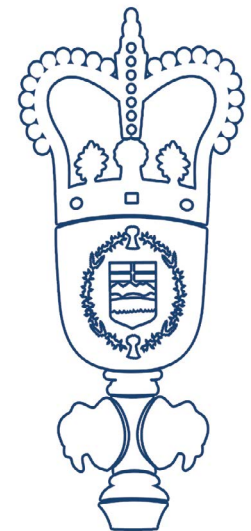


Honoured Guest

Grant Hunter, MLA

Minister Hunter was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on May 5, 2015 as the MLA for Cardston-Taber-Warner. He was re-elected on April 16, 2019 as the MLA for the newly created riding of Taber-Warner.

A dedicated husband, father, and grandfather, Hunter has owned and operated his own commercial/residential construction company for over two decades. Earning a Bachelor's of Science degree (Economics and Political Science) and a Master's of Business Administration degree, he has extensive knowledge of the challenges that businesses in Alberta face.



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Business of the Year

Grizzly Ridge Development - *Dustin Hayes*

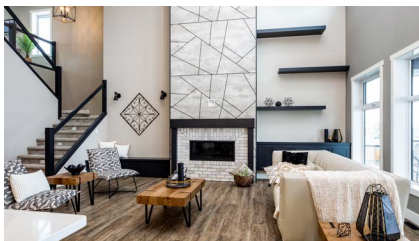
Award Criteria

- Properly licensed to conduct business in the Town of Coaldale and surrounding area.
- Courteous, knowledgeable, and cooperative management and staff.
- Distinguished itself as a progressive business in terms of general operations, marketing, a recent expansion or increase in employment.
- Promoted a new product or service which has brought awareness to the Coaldale community.
- Displayed good business ethics and exceptional customer service.
- Contributed to Coaldale through participation in non-profit groups and/or volunteerism.

Five year ago, when Dustin started building new homes in Coaldale, he experienced firsthand the great sense of community Coaldale has to offer. This motivated him to set up shop and place down his roots when he moved his family to the Cottonwood area.

As a dependable, efficient, and hard-working person, Dustin takes pride in all of his projects. His personability shines through when working with either clients or industry professionals. He goes that extra mile, delivering quality services to clients, striving to exceed expectations.

Supporting the local community is also important to Dustin and his family and is evident with his sponsorship of the Coaldale Cobras.



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Citizen of the Year

Dale Fujita - *CSN Kustom Auto Body*

Award Criteria

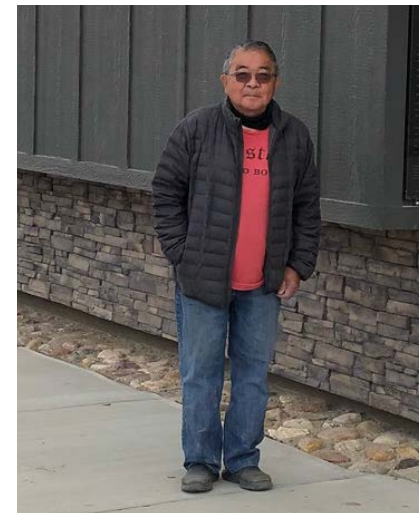
- Made a significant contribution to Coaldale.
- Participated in current and ongoing activities within the community of Coaldale.
- Has history of community service or active membership in one or more organizations and/or committees in Coaldale.
- Must be a citizen living in the community at the time of presentation

Dale Fujita was born in 1945. His family moved from Raymond to a Coaldale farm in 1956. Because of his large family - four brothers and four sisters - Dale needed to quit school to help out with the family. At 18, his strong work ethic was already evident. In addition to his responsibility on the family farm, he also drove a school bus and worked evenings at Ted's Auto Body.

In 1969, after working for three years for Ted's Auto Body, Dale purchased the business and renamed it to Kustom Auto Body. He also traded in the single life, and at the age of 24, was married to Carol. They went on to have two sons, Jeff and Kevin.

To say that Dale and the Kustom Auto Body business have been supportive to the Coaldale Community would be an extreme understatement! A review of the fire department's history reveals that not only did Dale serve as a volunteer fire fighter (1970-1976), but employed numerous other volunteers.

Fast forward to today, Kustom now has three generations of the Fujita family involved in the shop. It also comes as no surprise then to find three generations of Fujita's involved in the Fire Department.



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Customer Service of the Year

Jordan Sailer - Twisted Steel Fitness Center

Award Criteria

- Employee of a business in Coaldale or surrounding area who demonstrated a positive attitude, genuine care for customers, and who provided an overall courteous and friendly experience.

Twisted Steel has been in the Coaldale Community for five years, bringing overall physical and mental well-being to residents of this town. Jordan Sailer and his staff are extremely courteous, knowledgeable and go above and beyond for their clients.

Jordan always maintains a great business ethic knowing that doing right is the way to run a prosperous growing business.

During the COVID pandemic, Twisted Steel offered equipment to their members; providing door to door and curbside service for anything their clients required. They also adapted by offering their in-person classes online. This was done because they genuinely care about the health of everyone in their Twisted Steel family and the community as a whole.

Jordan is extremely community minded and has participated in many community events and fundraisers; donating not only time but also services, goods, and prizes.



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Group Citizen of the Year

Kinsmen & Kinette Clubs of Coaldale

Award Criteria

- Non-profit community group in operation for three or more years
- Made significant contributions to the community.
- Brought positive recognition to Coaldale.

The Coaldale Kinsmen and Kinette are nearing the completion of one of their largest projects to date - the complete revitalization of Eastview Park.

This project, spearheaded by these two groups in partnership with the Town of Coaldale, saw an existing park revitalized to include pickleball courts, tennis court, basketball courts and a 3-hole disk golf course. Coaldale Kinettes joined in and fundraised for an outdoor 'thrive fitness station' - designed for all age groups - along with park benches, picnic tables and bike racks to complement the park.

A new playground was built along with a day-use picnic shelter complete with a BBQ for families to enjoy a day out at the park. The cost of the total project, excluding gift-in-kind donations of equipment, labour, and materials, surpassed \$500,000.

Eastview Park is an important civic space that provides the community with an opportunity to gather and play together right in the Town of Coaldale's.



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2020
AWARD
RECIPIENTS



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Special Tribute

Dilo's Pizza - Nick, Sia and Christina Kollias

Award Criteria

- In recognition of a citizen for their outstanding achievements in either arts, sports, politics, education or heroism; who has drawn attention to Coaldale and surrounding area through their achievements.

Since 1979, the Kollias family has made Coaldale their home. For the past 41 years, they have built their business at the same location, just off main street on the upstairs level of a building located on 18th street.

With their business, Nick and Sia created their own pizza and pasta recipes. While building their restaurant clientele, they also took time to raise their two daughters Christina and Katerina.

This restaurant became a very popular place for Coaldale and area residents to hang out. The interior was not fancy or upscale, yet people came for the fellowship, camaraderie, and great food! Dilo's Pizza would be the primary destination for first dates, anniversaries, birthdays, reunions, and of course daily coffee time.

It was a bittersweet moment when Nick and Sia hung up their aprons and closed the door to Dilo's Pizza for the final time on April 25, 2021. Thank you for your 41 years of serving the Coaldale Community!



Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Membership Anniversary

New Members

Telus
Grain Storage Solutions
Silver Specs

Five Years

D&B Leslie Trucking Ltd.
Dennis Dirtworx Ltd.
DH Fencing

Ten Years

Bill Chapman
DRV Transport & Rentals Inc.
Green Acres Foundation
Low Key Transport

Fifteen Years

Coaldale Pet Clinic
Digitex
Donkersgoed Feeders Ltd.
Lethbridge County

Twenty Years

County of Lethbridge Community
Learning Council
Mings Garden Restaurant
Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc.
Wally's Pizza

Thirty Years

Alberta Birds of Prey
Bethel Windows & Doors

Over Forty

Coaldale Bottle Depot - 40
ATB Financial - 41
Coaldale Dental Centre - 42
Leonard D. Fast Law - 43
Scotiabank - 44
Intercontinental Truck Body Ltd. - 46
Kustom Auto Body - 46
Sunny South News - 46
Bills Electric - 48
Town of Coaldale - 49

Town of Coaldale

Male Athlete of the Year

Brenden Duda

Award Criteria

- Member of a local sport organization, club or school in Coaldale.
- Displayed a high level of skill, performance, dedication and leadership in their sport.
- Demonstrated a passion for sports, a high level of respect for the game, respect for others, and a commitment to fair play and ethical sport.

Brenden Duda (known by most people as his nickname “Bubba”) was born in 2004 to Ron and Sherrie Duda, who both grew up in Coaldale. He has an older sister named Shay and is currently in Grade 10 at Kate Andrews High School.

Since he was 4 years old, Brenden has been a member of Coaldale Minor Hockey. For the past several years, he has played Goalie for the Cobras.

Drawing from his experiences he enjoys coaching and mentoring young enthusiastic goalies. He will also volunteer to goaltend for local hockey teams when needed.

While off the ice, Brenden also enjoys volleyball, badminton, skiing, reading, and video games.

Brenden was awarded the Merit award from RI Baker in grade 8. More recently at Kate Andrews, Brenden received the award for highest overall academic average in Grade 9, including highest overall grade average in social studies, science, math and media.

Brenden plans to pursue a career in computer science once he has completed high school.



Town of Coaldale

Female Athlete of the Year

Kaci Abrey

Award Criteria

- Member of a local sport organization, club or school in Coaldale.
- Displayed a high level of skill, performance, dedication and leadership in their sport.
- Demonstrated a passion for sports, a high level of respect for the game, respect for others, and a commitment to fair play and ethical sport.

As an active student of Kate Andrews High School, Kaci has a passion for basketball! She has been an integral part of the Pride Basketball program at Kate Andrews, showing exceptional leadership by pushing team mates to do their best. She has also played for Coaldale's club team, Chaos.

As an avid player, Kaci has received many awards including, St. Joseph's High School MVP, Kate Andrews Rookie of the year, Deep South Second Team All Star, Kate Andrews MVP and Shooting Stars Alberta MVP.

Serving the greater community is important to Kaci. This can be witnessed with her volunteer work at school when serving lunch or participating in the Me to We program. She has also assisted the Town of Coaldale during Family Days and Settlers Days. She also volunteers at the Blood Tribe Department of Health serving lunch at the detox centre.

Kaci plans to attend Lethbridge College for the Criminal Justice program, with further aspirations of applying to Law School.



Town of Coaldale

Arts or Recreation Leader of the Year

3rd Scout Leaders

Award Criteria

- Leader of, or participant in, an arts or recreation group in Coaldale: board member, administrator, coach or parent volunteer.
- Worked towards the advancement of art or recreation in Coaldale.
- Demonstrated a high level of integrity, inclusiveness, cooperation and respect for others.
- Displayed personal growth and development.
- Promoted a positive image for Coaldale.



- *Daniel Morris*
- *Sam Morris*
- *Shay Isleifson*
- *Shirley Loewen*
- *Lloyd Clarke*
- *Sid Wolfe*
- *Mary Etches*
- *Wayne Etches*

This dedicated group works tirelessly for the Scouts Program and for the youth of this community. Each of these leaders commits an exceptional amount of time, dedication and skill to this program and far exceed what most volunteers are asked to do. They often spend their own money to ensure youth activities can take place and they spend their weekends and evenings with Scout Members positively impacting the future citizens of our community.

The activities and opportunities provided to the 3rd Scout youth include: camping, fishing, hiking, archery, kayaking, canoeing, mountain biking, swimming, shooting, survival skills, cooking, 1st Aid training, community service, rock climbing, crafts, bowling, visits to the zoo, sleepovers, woodworking and leather working. They also participate in Jamboree's in Canada and abroad.

Town of Coaldale

Community Artist of the Year

Amy Allred

Award Criteria

- Local artist working in any medium (visual, musical or performance) who exemplified excellence towards the development of art and culture in Coaldale.
- Participated in a cultural group or organization in Coaldale.
- Demonstrated a high level of integrity, inclusiveness, cooperation and respect for others.
- Strives for the advancement of arts and culture in general.
- Displayed personal growth and development.
- Promoted a positive image for arts and culture in Coaldale.



Amy is a singer/songwriter who not only performs to audiences around Southern Alberta but is also passionate about sharing her love of music with our Community.

She has put Coaldale on the map by opening for George Canyon, finished as a finalist two years in a row at Voice of the Big Valley Jamboree contest and was nominated for Fan's Choice Contender Round with the Alberta Country Music Association. Amy has also been recognized as one of Lethbridge's top 40 under 40.

As a strong supporter and advocate for the community she calls home, Amy is always ready and willing to share her music with the residents of Coaldale. She has done so by participating in the numerous events hosted by the Town of Coaldale.

Amy is looking forward to bringing music, laughter, and cheer to our Community in the near future once we are able to again meet as a community in person.

Town of Coaldale

Environmental Excellence of the Year

Community Garden Committee

Award Criteria

- Individual or organization who dedicated time and effort towards environmental initiatives such as community beautification, recycling, community cleanup or innovation towards environmental initiatives.

- *Gloria Blair* • *Kira Hiemstra*
- *Lee-Anne McKenna* • *Lisa Wolfe*
- *Julie Landry-DeBoer*

The Coaldale Community Garden Committee is responsible for a small plot of garden space in Coaldale which allows residents to grow their own fresh produce and flowers when they might otherwise not have the opportunity to do so.

The Committee members are stewards of the plot and maintain the space in an environmentally friendly way. This small committee is also responsible for the beautiful planter boxes that are found in front of many of the businesses in Coaldale. They maintain the planter boxes, look after the soil in the boxes and plant all of the flowers for the businesses. This takes a huge amount of volunteer time but the end result is a more beautiful Coaldale for everyone to enjoy.



Town of Coaldale

Youth Citizen of the Year

Gavin Besaw

Award Criteria

- Youth volunteer in Coaldale who made a significant contribution to the community.
- Developed and executed a goal or initiative to help further enhance their local community.
- Demonstrated a high level of integrity, inclusiveness, leadership, cooperation and respect for others.

Gavin is a 10-year-old student who attends Jennie Emery Elementary School, where teachers enjoy the care and enthusiasm he brings to the classroom.

With a love for all kinds of animals, Gavin and his mother - Cheri Beatty - provide first-rate care for rescue animals until they find their forever homes.

Gavin's soft and caring heart has received recognition from the Town of Coaldale when he was highlighted for the many hours spent coloring paper Easter eggs to cheer up seniors at the Sunny South Lodge.

Since the Canadian Cancer Society needed to cancel the CIBC Run for the Cure, Gavin decided to do his own walk and raise \$300 walking 5 km all over Coaldale. He was given an award from the Canadian Cancer Society for all of his hard work.

Congratulations to Gavin on a job well done! We look forward to seeing what his next plans will be!



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Coaldale Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors 2020-2021

Officers

President.....	René van de Vendel, Destiny Homes Inc.
First Vice President	Terry Roosen, Scotiabank
Second Vice President.....	Jack Van Rijn, Van Rijn Electric Ltd.
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Corporate Secretary.....	Leonard Fast, Leonard D. Fast Law
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Director	Jack Penner, NAPA Auto Parts
Past President.....	Everett Duerksen, EJD Machacek LLP
Executive Director.....	Colleen Van Raalte, VR Virtual Assistant

Town of Coaldale

Government & Management

Town Council

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Councillor.....	Jacen Abrey
Councillor.....	Bill Chapman
Councillor.....	Roger Hohm
Councillor.....	Doreen Lloyd
Councillor.....	Henry (Butch) Pauls
Councillor.....	Briane Simpson

Special thank you to Cindy Hoffman, Community Services Manger.