



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME
Town Hall / 10-Nov-2024
"Not All Those Who Wander Are Lost"



Agenda

1. CORA Town Hall Session Overview
2. Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Vision
3. Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame – By The Numbers
4. CORA Virtual Presentation For 2024 Inductees
5. Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame 2024 Inductees
6. CORA Hall Of Fame 2024 Guest Speakers Introduction
7. CORA Hall Of Fame 2024 Inductees Presentation



CORA Town Hall Session Overview



CORA was founded in 1992. Yet Canadians had been participating in outrigger canoeing events in the 1970s and 1980s. Several CORA clubs were founded in the in 1980s and 1990s long before CORA ever came to be. There were many individuals whose exploits are known to very few.

The goal of this CORA Town Hall session is to raise awareness of the "Significant and Exemplary Contributions" to Canadian outrigger canoeing by the 2024 year group of Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame inductees so that you may know what they have achieved so that others may follow in their footsteps.



Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame Vision



At the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) November 2020 Pre-AGM (Annual General Meeting), there was consensus that there were many individuals who had made "Significant and Exemplary Contributions" to Canadian outrigger canoeing, but their stories had never been captured, and they had never been formally recognized.

CORA spent early 2021 tracking down this history, and fact-checking as best as possible the exploits of those individuals who founded CORA, who founded Canadian clubs, who were coaches / builders with Canadian clubs, who inaugurated races, who excelled at IVF / Molokai / Catalina / Queen Liliuokalani / International events, and who designed / built / imported / distributed canoes and gear to grow the sport.

CORA introduced a formal process in January 2021 to nominate, research, vet, elect, and induct a backlog of influential individuals going back across four decades, that would set the bar for Canadian Outrigger Canoeing Hall Of Fame Inductees.

- At the August 2021 CORA Board Meeting marking the inaugural year for the process, 18 individuals were inducted.
- At the August 2022 CORA Board Meeting marking the second year for the process, 6 more individuals were inducted
- At the August 2023 CORA Board Meeting marking the third year for the process, 7 more individuals were inducted
- At the August 2024 CORA Board Meeting marking the fourth year for the process, 6 more individuals were inducted



Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame – By The Numbers



Association	Association Founded	Hall Of Fame Founded	Years Backlog	Years	Inductees	Average Inductees / Year	Annual Members / Year (Pool)	Inductees / Annual Members	Hall Of Fame Staff	Canoe / Kayak Inductees	Sports
CORA	1992	2021	29 (1980s)	4	37	9 (Year 1=18)	~1500	0.6%	Volunteers	37	1
BC Sports Hall Of Fame	1966	1966	60+ (1900s)	58	521	9 (Year 1=36; Year 2=13; Year 3=7)	?	?	Paid Researchers & Directors	1	52
Ontario Sports Hall Of Fame	1995	1995	60+ (1930s)	29	115	4 (Year 1=12; Year 2=12; Year 3=12)	?	?	Paid Researchers & Directors	0	62
Professional Hockey (NHL)	1917	1945	28	79	430	5 (Year 1=12; Year 2=13; Year 3=2)	32 Teams * 23 Players = 736	0.6%	Paid Researchers & Directors	0	1
Professional Baseball (MLB)	1902	1936	34	88	346	4 (Year 1=7; Year 2=11; Year 3=9)	30 Teams * 26 Players = 780	0.5%	Paid Researchers & Directors	0	1
Professional Football (NFL)	1922	1963	41	61	371	7 (Year 1=17; Year 2=7; Year 3=7)	32 Teams * 53 Players = 1696	0.4%	Paid Researchers & Directors	0	1

Note: Canoe Kayak BC has a "Hall Of Champions" (most accomplished competitive athlete **annually** in several age divisions) 1986-2016

Note: Professional Hockey / Football / Baseball also recognize Coaches, Managers, Executives, Officials



CORA Virtual Presentation For 2024 Inductees



CORA has made best efforts to have an in-person presentation for as many of the 2024 Inductees as could be arranged. For those inductees who are spread across Canada and around the world, CORA is hosting this online Town Hall to recognize those inductees for whom an in-person presentation may not have been possible.

CORA has invited those Inductees we have been able to contact and one or more individuals who know / knew them well to speak on their behalf. Please note that CORA sincerely appreciates each Guest Speaker who has offered to share their personal thoughts on the Inductees.

We have prepared a slide that highlights some of the major achievements that we have been able to confirm so that you may know more about each of the Inductees. We have asked each Guest Speaker to speak for 10-15 minutes as to how / when / where they met the Inductee and any personal thoughts they may wish to share about the Inductee.

The Agenda / Itinerary for Inductees & their Guest Speakers is as follows:

1. **Janet Davis:** Russell Gunner
2. **Ron Dickinson:** Ian "Pipes" Bolden & Mike Billy Jr.
3. **Ron Zander Williams:** Julio Villarreal & Matt Kelly
4. **Zoe Norcross-Nu'u:** Chelsey Brooks Tidmarsh & Ashley Barker
5. **Laurel Archer:** Jamie Boulding & Amy (Leonard) Benskin & Jacinta Sheridan & Lance Mamiya & Lyse Fortin
6. **Bob Stewart:** Mike Petryna & Jim Farintosh & Danielle / Stephen Kala (Mountain Home CC)



Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame 2024 Inductees



Canadian Outrigger Hall Of Fame

Following their Annual General Meeting, CORA announced the creation of a new award to acknowledge Athletes, Coaches-Builders, and Pioneers in the sport of outrigger canoeing in Canada. Nominations for selection may be made by any CORA member or club representative of an active CORA club in Canada through the CORA website, or by contacting CORA directly.



Bob Stewart



Zoe Norcross-Nuu



Ron Zander Williams



Laurel Archer



Ron Dickinson



Janet Davis

<https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/community-2/canadian-outrigger-hall-of-fame/>



CORA Hall Of Fame 2024 Guest Speakers Introduction (1 of 3)



Russell Gunner			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club Physio Plus Partner / Co-Owner • Athletic Therapy; Registered Acupuncturist • Janet Davis Colleague
Ian "Pipes" Bolden	 Gibsons Paddle Club		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gibsons Paddle Club Member • Ron Dickinson Colleague
Mike Billy Jr.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Vancouver Canoe Club Member • Son of Mike Billy (1 of Original CORA Board Members in 1992) • Ron Dickinson Colleague
Julio Villarreal			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outrigger Canoe Club Cancun (OCCC) Founder • Ron Zander Williams Colleague
Matt Kelly			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granville Island Predator Shop (90s) • Owner - Major DB/OC Vendor • Big Chop Series & CORA Sponsor • 1990s DB/OC History Guru (Wilt) • Ron Zander Williams Colleague



CORA Hall Of Fame 2024 Guest Speakers (2 of 3)



<p>Chelsey Brooks Tidmarsh</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sistership Dragon Boat Association Coach • 2010 New Caledonia IVF Sprints • 2011 Molokai Na Wahine Crew • Zoe Norcross-Nu'u Colleague
<p>Ashley Barker</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Armed Forces Search and Rescue • 2023 Samoa IVF World Distance • Zoe Norcross-Nu'u Colleague
<p>Jamie Boulding</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strathcona Park Lodge President • Canadian Outdoor Leadership Training (COLT) • Laurel Archer Colleague
<p>Amy (Benskin) Leonard</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea Kayak Guides Alliance BC Guide / Trainer (Spotlight on Guides) • COLT Instructor • Laurel Archer Colleague
<p>Jacinta Sheridan</p>	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCRCC Member • Team Canada (90s) IVF Sprints • La Ruta Maya Belize River Challenge • 2013 Molokai Na Wahine Crew • Laurel Archer Colleague



CORA Hall Of Fame 2024 Guest Speakers (3 of 3)



<p>Lance Mamiya</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Pacific Northwest/FreeLance • Steersman Extraordinaire • 2012 Olamau (90-Mile) Race • 2013 Molokai Na Wahine Crew Lead • Laurel Archer Colleague
<p>Lyse Fortin</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comox Valley Canoe Racing Club Member • Team Canada IVF World Distance • Laurel Archer Colleague
<p>Mike Petryna</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myra Falls Mining Operation Agent • Saxum Rock Tools Purchasing Agent • Bob Stewart "Family" Colleague
<p>Jim Farintosh</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickering Dragon Boat Coach • Bow Wave DB Camp Coach • 2012 Molokai Hoe Crew (60s Silver) • Bob Stewart Colleague
<p>Stephen / Danielle Kala & Friends</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain Home Outrigger Canoe Club (OR) Members • Bob Stewart Colleagues



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Janet Davis



Highlights / Oakville (ON)

- 1980s Canadian National Rhythmic Gymnastics team member
- 1986 graduated from University of Toronto with Bachelors in Physiotherapy
- 38 years working in the sports medicine field
- 1990s-present Canadian Aquafitness Leaders Alliance (CALA) Team of Trainers & Certified Professional Trainers Network (CPTN)
- 1990s-present Ontario Rugby Union medical director & Ontario Tennis Association Physiotherapy director
- 1990s-present Physiotherapist for several international running & cycling events
- 1990s-present STOTT certified Pilates instructor & certification specialist for CPTN & University of Toronto clinical lecturer
- 1991 wrote American Physiotherapy Boards in Kailua Oahu in 1991 & began outrigger canoeing with Kailua Canoe Club
- 1992-1998 World Dragon Boat Championships 1993 in The Hague (Women 4th), Macau Dragon Boat Invitational 1993 (1st), Provincial Marathon Champion 1996 mixed tandem, Women's Toronto Dragon Boat Festival 1992-1998 (1st), Burloak Team Canadian Flatwater Championships 1998 (1st Masters)
- 1995 Lake Tahoe 2-day outrigger canoeing event with Nancy Botting & met Donald Michelson of Connecticut who was involved in East Coast tourism
- 1996 32-mile Lake Ontario Crossing Race by MOCC / Wai Nui in Voyageur Canoe as 1st ever womens crew & 1st overall
- 1995-1997 raced with Newport Beach crew to Malia Division 3rd at 1995 Catalina Crossing; Raced with Pupu O' Hawaii Santa Cruz in Womens at 1995 Lake Tahoe Challenge & in Mixed Division at 1996 Lake Tahoe Challenge; Raced with Pupu O' Hawaii Santa Cruz in 1997 at Queen Liliuokalani, Lake Tahoe Challenge (1st Masters), Catalina Crossing (1st Masters), & Molokai Na Wahine (3rd Masters)
- 1997 co-purchased (Nancy Botting) **1st Ontario OC6 (Force 5) & OC6 Trailer for Mississauga Outrigger Canoe Club (MOCC) / Wai Nui**
- 1999 Liberty Challenge with MOCC / Wai Nui after arranging cultural exchange with the local Toronto Polynesian community
- Daughters Malia & Bobbi-Kai were Canadian Group Champions in Rhythmic Gymnastics & Team Canada at Junior Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (AGG) World Championships
- Significant contributions (photos; history) to the "*Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Legacy*" document for CORA Cultural Continuity



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Ron Dickinson



Highlights / Halfmoon Bay (BC)

- Born / raised born in Coquitlam BC - Attended Centennial Senior Secondary High and Simon Fraser University
- Long career of Sunshine Coast outrigger canoe coaching with Team Canada, Spirit Of Aloha Racing, Spirit of Excellence, and Gibsons
- Acquired 2 Vakaloloma Fijian (Tafaga) OC6s each weighing 230lbs (the first Canadian "ultralights") that had been shipped in a container from Fiji to the West Coast after 1998 Suva Fiji 8th IPCF World Sprints
- Also brought 6 Tiger Surf Rider (Surfrigger) V1 canoes to Canada from 1998 Suva Fiji 8th IPCF World Sprints
- Acquired extensive V1 experience when very few male paddlers (Hugh Fisher; Don Irvine) were doing V1
- 25+ years of competitive outrigger canoe racing in Canada, Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, Fiji, and England at major events
- V1 canoes were eventually sold to local paddlers or deeded to Powell River to support the growth of solo outrigger canoe training
- Ron arranged cross-cultural exchange between elders and chiefs from both the Vancouver's Fijian community and the Squamish Nation at Ambleside after the V6s and V1s arrived in Canada and before any of the Fijian canoes touched the water
- Founder and head coach for Spirit Of Aloha Racing (SOAR) on the Sunshine Coast
- Spirit of Aloha Racing (SOAR) fielded crews and did well in the CORA Cup Series events from 2008-2015
- Spirit of Aloha Racing (SOAR) partnered with Sea Cavalcade to host the Shoal Channel Sea Sprints
- CORA club representative continuously from the time SOAR joined CORA in 2008 until SOAR folded in 2015
- Offered continuous youth development on the Sunshine Coast with SC (Sunshine Coast) Spirit of Excellence in partnership with Gibsons Paddle Club
- Gibsons was deeded the 2 Vakaloloma Fijian (Tafaga) OC6s in 2015 when Spirit of Aloha Racing (SOAR) folded
- Raced with an all-Canadian Native PD crew for Team Canada (V6 500M & V6 1000M & V12 500M) at 2004 Hilo IVF World Sprints
- Longtime friend of North Vancouver Canoe Club (NVCC) founder Mike Billy and his son Mike Billy Jr and the NVCC Community
- Raced for Team Canada at 2022 London IVF World Sprints taking Gold with a V12 500M crew
- Significant contributions (photos; history) to the "*Sunshine Coast Legacy*" document for CORA Cultural Continuity



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Ron Zander Williams



Highlights / Sudbury (ON)

- Born / raised Rio de Janeiro (Brazil / Canada Dual Citizen)
- Graduated high school Brazil & Canada (Kwalikum Secondary School)
- Visual effects artist career that spans 30 years on countless daily shows and mini-series that have seen him do film shoots in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Mexico, Morocco, Panama, Peru, Toronto, and Vancouver
- 1990s met Matt Kelly of Predator Designs on Granville Island & bought V1 won by Annie Boulding at 1992 Sacramento World Sprints
- 1992-1994 Outrigger Canoeing with FCRCC Bladerunners & first Catalina Crossing
- 1999 Purchased a Pacific Islander OC6 'kit', later named 'Lanakila', from Dennis Campbell (Imua)
- 2000 'Lanakila', shipped from Newport Beach to Brazil via Houston & finished at a canoe building shop in Santos and displayed in São Paulo in December 2000
- Also took Moana Nui Seahorse V1 to Brazil inside Lanakila & it became the first V1 design ever produced in Brazil for a few years
- 2000 Founded Rio Outrigger Clube, the first outrigger club in South America, and served as its President and coach for many years
- 2001 Imported OC paddles made by Brien Kalai Foerster on Hornby Island (Kalai Custom Paddles) to equip Lanakila's first crews
- 2000s Created first Brazilian race regulations based on Australian, Hawaiian and California associations
- 2002 Outrigger Rio Clube with Ron sent the first team ever to represent Brazil in an international outrigger competition, namely La Porquerolaise (Toulon, France)
- 2002 Outrigger Rio Clube with Ron introduced first international outrigger canoe competition in Latin America (Rio Va'a 2002)
- 2000s Worked with Mariano Larghi on design of new OC6 hull & ama "Mako" as first outrigger canoe in Argentina
- 2015 Relocated to Canada and brought several personal outrigger canoes (V6s; V3) to Eastern Canada in 2015 and used those canoes to offer coaching and racing opportunities for paddlers in Sudbury, Mississauga, Ottawa and Toronto Ontario
- 2022 Helped **Julio Villarreal** start first outrigger club in Cancun Mexico, with rigging & paddling support for 2 Bradley Lightning OC6s
- 2015-2019 Organized an OC6 race 15KM (3x5KM Loop) hosted by Sudbury Canoe Club on Lake Ramsey
- Significant contributions (photos; history) to the "*Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Legacy*" document for CORA Cultural Continuity



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Zoe Norcross-Nu'u



Highlights / Comox (BC)

- Born / raised Deep Cove BC and paddled in Burrard Inlet
- 1993-1996 Attended Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Burnaby BC; 1996-1997 attended University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa graduated with Bachelors Science Geology / Geophysics; 1999-2002 attended University of Hawaii (UH) at Manoa graduated with Masters Science Geology / Geophysics
- 1996-2009 studying / living / working / paddling / teaching Topics in Sustainability related to issues or initiatives that were happening in the Hawaiian Islands
- 1999 raced Molokai Na Wahine with Linda Gehring, Rome Esperanza, Peed-Jean Saldania, Rachel Lyon, Erica Klohn as **first-ever womens Iron crew**
- 1999 Molokai Na Wahine brought together Mel Whittall & Karel Tresnak & Nappy Napoleon & Rick Nu'u to overcome HCRA "challenges"
- 1996-2011 raced to three top-five finishes in Molokai Na Wahine
- 2011 raced Molokai Na Wahine with **Chelsey Brooks Tidmarsh**, Cheryl Skribe, Helen Currey, Kamini Jain, Leanne Stanley, Leanne Zrum, Sheila Kuyper, Sue Porter, Shannon Bell (8 of the women from the 2010 New Caledonia IVF World Sprints) to finish 4th Place Overall for the **best ever showing by an all-Canadian Womens crew** (to present day)
- 2013 Joined with Don Irvine to form **Hana Hou Paddlesports** and become the Western Canadian distributors for Outrigger Zone assisting Western Canadian clubs with acquiring Puakea Malolo and Gibling Vortex OC6s
- 2017 Guest Speaker on oceanography and downwind paddling at Right Angle Performance Outrigger Summit (Kamini Jain)
- 2023 raced Samoa IVF Distance with Leanne Stanley, Melanie Conard, Kelsey Siddall, **Ashley Barker**, Cheryl Skribe to take **Gold in V6 Masters 40+ Women**
- 2012-present Works with Comox Valley Regional District Georgia Basin Inter-Regional Educational Initiative (IREI) to guide the management of the Comox Lake watershed for the long-term protection of drinking water at the highest possible quality
- 2012-present Renovated 125-year-old farmhouse/ home through natural building techniques as a commitment to the environment and low-energy living



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME Laurel M Archer



Highlights / Comox (BC)

- Born / raised in Regina SK until relocating to Vancouver Island in early 2000s to become a member of Comox
- Teaching paddling for the Canadian Outdoor Leadership Training (COLT) program at Strathcona Park Lodge since 2002, as well as the Adventure Studies program at Thompson Rivers University and North Island College, and SKILS among other such programs
- Paddled for pleasure and work on waterways from the Arctic to Honduras, Costa Rica, Mexico, Belize, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Myanmar, Chile, Argentina, Australia, Rarotonga, Hawaii, and Tahiti
- Credentials include SKGABC Examiner, Guide Trainer and Class 4 Endorsed Sea Kayak Guide, Paddle Canada Level 2 Sea Kayak | Instructor, Paddle Canada Instructor Trainer in Moving Water Canoe, Lake Canoe & Canoe Tripping, RCABC Master Instructor, Canadian Power & Sail Squadron ROC (Maritime) Examiner, Swiftwater Rescue Technician, and PADI Open Water Diver
- Long and successful career as an OC1 and OC2 outrigger and marathon canoe competitor in PNWORCA Winter Series races, CORA small-boat races, Round Bowen Challenge, Queen Liliuokalani, Vaka Eiva, Kauai World Challenge, California Coastal Challenge Relay, Hamilton Island Cup, the Pa'a Solo, Tahiti Te Aito, Gorge Downwind Champs, and two M2Ms
- Michele Genge and Laurel raced as Wahine Ice in 2006 placed 2nd overall in Women Tandem Canoe at Yukon River Quest
- Laurel, Jacinta Sheridan, and Marleny Cotrim raced in 2008 as Aloha, Eh? placed 1st overall in womens division at La Ruta Maya Belize River Challenge
- Jacinta Sheridan and Laurel raced in 2009 Murray River Marathon in Australia to place 2nd in womens tandem division
- Steered crews to umpteen top-10 & podium finishes at Catalina Crossing, Canadian Iron Championships, Molokai Na Wahine, Dad's Centre Race, Hamilton Island Outrigger Cup, Cook Islands Vaka Eiva, Pailolo Challenge, Queen Liliuokalani, Gorge Outrigger Race
- Steered Team Canada Open womens crew at 2017 Tahiti IVF World Distance Championships to 4th place
- Wrote her first book at the age of 34, a 267-page thesis for her Masters Degree in Distance Education
- Authored three guidebooks (Northern Saskatchewan Canoe Trips: A Guide to 15 Wilderness Rivers; Northern British Columbia Canoe Trips: Volume One; Northern British Columbia Canoe Trips: Volume Two)
- Inducted into International Explorers Club in 2007 as 162nd member of the Canadian Chapter
- Became a Fellow of The Royal Canadian Geographic Society in 2013 (for documenting historic rivers in northern Saskatchewan & BC)



CANADIAN OUTRIGGER HALL OF FAME

Bob Stewart (Mister Aloha)



Highlights / Vancouver (BC)

- Born / raised Halifax Nova Scotia, then relocated to Sudbury ON & Montreal QC & Toronto ON & Vancouver BC
- 1991 Made his 1st appearance at a West Coast paddlesports competition as helmsman at the Vancouver International DB Festival
- 1995-1998 Paddled outrigger canoe with Burrard Civic Marina based Dragon Canoe Club (DCC) and then Lotus Sports Club
- 2004 PNWORCA Winter Series 1st-ever Canadian event OC2 Masters 60+ 1st Place (Peter Forand)
- 2006-present Member 18 years with Jericho Outrigger Canoe Club (JOCC), now known as the Jericho Paddling Club (JPC), and second longest tenured Jericho paddler after Gabe Somjen
- 2003 1st Molokai Hoe with Jericho and then with other multinational crews making it to the podium 6 times
- 2012 Raced Molokai Hoe with international crew including renowned Ontario paddlesports coach and paddler **Jim Farintosh** and legendary "Nappy" Napoleon "iron" steering his 59th Molokai Hoe, to take Silver in Masters 60+ and 43rd place finish overall
- 2013 Raced again with Nappy's Molokai Hoe crew in his 60th Kaiwi Channel crossing
- 2019 Earned his elusive Gold medal racing with California Gold 65's
- 2006 Raced with Jericho mens crew at Canadian Distance Championships to finish 1st place
- 2010 Raced with Jericho mens crew at Howe Sound Distance Championships to 1st place overall and claim CORA Cup Championship
- 2018 Raced with "Old Guys Rule" legends crew at 2018 The Gorge Race to 1st place in Kupuna division
- 2010 Raced Calgary IVF World Sprints in V6 500M and V6 1000M and V12 500M Masters 60+ crews, and take Gold in 3 events
- 2016 Raced Australia IVF World Sprints in V6 500M and V6 1000M and V12 500M crews, and take Bronze in V12 500M
- 2023 Raced Samoa IVF World Distance in V6 Masters 70+ crew and take Bronze
- 2024 Raced Hilo IVF World Sprints in V6 500M & V6 500M & V12 500M Masters 70+/75+ "Canadian Icemen" crews for Gold in 3 events
- 2024 PNWORCA Winter Series Peter Forand Masters Challenge Champion (Top OC1 Masters Paddler in Pacific Northwest)
- 2021 Volunteered his time as Guest Speaker to assist CORA Town Hall Committee Off-The-Water Series during COVID Global Pandemic and provided a detailed chronology of his career in paddlesports and his knowledge of OC1 design evolution over the course of 30+ years
- Member of Jericho Sailing Centre Association (JSCA) Board of Directors and Jericho Rescue for many years