



Feb. 2, 2023

DAVID CARTER TO BE PRESENTED WITH QUEEN ELIZABETH II'S PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDAL



David J. Carter

DUNMORE — He's presided over Alberta's Legislature, written books about history, and served congregations: With a lifetime full of serving others, David J. Carter is exactly the sort of person the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal was created for.

Cypress County nominated Carter and is proud to present him with the medal during a ceremony at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023 in county council chambers. The presentation will be live-streamed on the [county's YouTube channel](#) as well.

"This is truly... a wonderful thing," said Carter, who now spends much of his time at St. Margaret's Church in the Cypress Hills. "I realize it's not (just) for me. I represent a lot of people across the borders of my whole life, especially those around Medicine Hat and district, those who continue to support St. Margaret's."

Growing up on the prairies, Carter always felt a calling to help his community. He became the youngest Dean of the Anglican Church in 1969, known for building and restoring places of beauty and pilgrimage.

He entered the political arena in 1979, becoming an MLA of a Calgary riding and elected three more times, twice serving as the Speaker of the Legislature before retiring in 1993. Building continued to be part of his service, as he helped develop or restore many landmarks in Calgary including Carter Place, a senior's facility.

"I'm still basically the shy kid I've always been," he said. "I never was going to be a clergyman, never was going to be a politician, and certainly in the legislature I was never going to be the speaker. And God is still laughing. I've been fortunate every step of the way."

St. Margaret's has seen an incredible transformation since he began work there in 1976. The little church and cemetery near Elkwater is a jewel in the county – much like Carter and his wife Jean, who has volunteered and helped considerably over the years.

Beyond that work, Carter has written 18 books in addition to numerous works of poetry and is an avid photographer. Most of his writing is historical, focusing on World Wars I and II.

Awarded the City of Medicine Hat's Cultural Award in 2008 and an honorary degree from Medicine Hat College in 2020, the 88-year-old still watches question period and analyzes the ins and outs of parliamentary procedure.

The Jubilee Medal was created to mark the 70th anniversary of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada. Carter is among 7,000 Albertans who will receive the honour, meant to celebrate those who, like the late monarch, have dedicated themselves to family, community, and country. The medal is included in the Canadian Honours System and authorized to be worn with other official honours.



Carter is among the rare recipients of the Jubilee Medal to have met Queen Elizabeth, having done so in 1990 while he was Speaker.

PHOTO SUBMITTED: David Carter shakes hands with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on June 29, 1990 in Edmonton. Carter's wife Jean (left) and Lois Mooney look on.

Cypress County is made better by David Carter, who is eminently deserving of the Platinum Jubilee Medal.

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