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## NEWS RELEASE

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Office of the Premier  
Concert Properties  
The O'Keefe Retirement Community

### **FOUR OUTSTANDING LOWER MAINLAND SENIORS RECOGNIZED**

VANCOUVER – Four inspirational seniors who have contributed enormously to their communities were recognized today at the second annual Leisure Care Lighthouse Awards luncheon hosted by David Podmore, president and CEO of Concert Properties.

The Lower Mainland's second annual Lighthouse Awards are a partnership between the Province of British Columbia's Ministry of Health and Ministry of Community Services, BC Housing, Vancouver Coastal Health, Concert Properties Ltd., the O'Keefe Retirement Community, the BC Retirement Communities Association, the Vancouver Sun, Global TV, Neptune Food Service, and McMillan. The Lighthouse Awards were launched several years ago in the United States by Leisure Care Retirement Communities, based in Seattle.

“As today's awards demonstrate, British Columbia's seniors are a dynamic group of people who care about their communities,” said Premier Gordon Campbell. “These are not people who see retirement as a time to slow down, but as an opportunity to become even more involved. Our government is committed to providing the best system of support in Canada for seniors, and the Lighthouse Awards are a great partnership.”

Over 100 nominations in four categories were received for the awards program. The Wisdom of Age Mentorship Award was won by “The Granny Rapper,” Roz Davidson. The Picture of Health Award was given to avid runner and biker Phil Horton. The Shining Light Award was presented to Marg Oakes for her countless hours of volunteer work. The Philanthropy Award was given to Vera Rutledge in recognition of her generosity to her community.

David Podmore, president and CEO of Concert Properties, chaired the judging panel, which included Ida Chong, Minister of Community Services and Minister responsible for Seniors' and Women's Issues; Shayne Ramsay, CEO, BC Housing; Ida Goodreau, president and CEO, Vancouver Coastal Health; and Carol Omstead, president, BC Retirement Communities Association.

“We were very impressed by the calibre of this year’s finalists,” said Podmore. “We thought last year’s winners were incredible, yet the achievements of this year’s contenders easily matched those. This demonstrates how seniors today are continuing to contribute to society well into their retirement years.”

This news release is available online at [www.bchousing.org](http://www.bchousing.org).

1 backgrounder(s) attached.

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