

## *Award of Recognition*

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### *Gordon Comeau*



Gordon is the chair of the board of trustees for the Nicola-Similkameen School District (S.D. 58). He has served as a school trustee since 1980, starting on the former board of S.D. 17 (Princeton) and, from 1996, the subsequently amalgamated board of Nicola-Similkameen. He has also contributed to numerous committees and education initiatives within his district during his two decades as chair.

Burnishing Gordon's legacy are leadership roles in provincial and national organizations. He has served on the board of directors with the BC School Trustees Association since 1996, as a director and vice-president, and as president for four years. His duties as BCSTA's immediate past president coincide with his current position as the president of the Canadian School Boards Association.

Gordon's impact on the education community will last well beyond his departure from his official roles. Few leaders have had such a broad influence, to have been a passionate advocate for children and public education within his district, throughout the province and across the country. Whether lobbying for more money, improving academic standards for First Nations students or advising on government policies, Gordon has always focused on what is best for ALL students. He has won plaudits for his leadership in forging stronger relationships with partner groups and, indeed, his rapport with diverse stakeholders at all levels of the system has helped build consensus for a shared agenda on student achievement.

Gordon, who recently retired from his career as a senior range technician with the Ministry of Forests, has also been a tireless community leader. This includes serving as a Cub Scout leader, president of Princeton and District Community Services, director of the local golf club, and president of the Minor Baseball Association.