



**ALBERTA  
CHAMBER OF  
RESOURCES**

For media inquiries, please contact:

Amanda Rose  
Communications Officer  
amanda@acr-alberta.com  
780.420.1030 x 226

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Alberta Chamber of Resources Celebrates Excellence in Resource Leadership**

EDMONTON, AB – The Alberta Chamber of Resources (ACR) announces its 2018 Resource Leadership and Indigenous Resource Leadership award recipients, to be presented at the annual awards banquet in February 2019.

Since 1977, ACR has recognized an individual, organization or project that demonstrates commitment to the organization's mission of providing leadership for the strategic and responsible development of Alberta's natural resources. The recipients of the 2018 awards are Steve Williams and Jessica Vandenberghe.

ACR's Resource Leadership Award is presented to Steve Williams, Chief Executive Officer of Suncor Energy, in recognition of his extensive career in building Canada's energy sector. As a strong advocate for sustainable development in the energy industry, Mr. Williams is being recognized for his numerous contributions including serving as a founding member of Canada's Oil Sands Innovation Alliance (COSIA), a member of the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy and as a member of the advisory board of Canada's Ecofiscal Commission. Mr. Williams has received the Peter Lougheed Award for Leadership in Public Policy from Canada's Public Policy Forum and has previously been named Canadian CEO of the year by the Globe & Mail, Report on Business magazine. He has recently been selected to receive the 2019 Canadian Business Leader Award by the University of Alberta School of Business. For a full bio on Mr. Williams, please [click here](#).

"It's an honour to be recognized through this award," said Steve Williams. "Alberta is home to world-class resources that have the potential to deliver unparalleled economic prosperity to Albertans and Canadians. Our industry is keenly aware that development of these valuable natural resources has to address important environmental and social considerations. This award is about leadership when it comes to ensuring a sustainable approach to resource development. I'd like to extend my appreciation to all those who have shared that focus with me and with Suncor over the years – it's a testament to collaboration and the good things that happen when we work together."

ACR's Indigenous Leadership Award is presented to Jessica Vandenberghe, Indigenous Community Consultant and Project Engineer at Urban Systems Ltd., in recognition of the extensive efforts she has undertaken outside of her formal work to promote a better understanding of education with Indigenous peoples; particularly Indigenous youth. For a full bio on Ms. Vandenberghe, please [click here](#).

Ms. Vandenberghe says she has been fortunate in her life to have been adopted into a very inclusive, hardworking family that taught her how to be independent and to have a love of learning that values community and relationships. This ultimately allowed her to become the well-respected and known Professional Engineer she is today. "My proudest accomplishment has been working to influence more inclusive workplaces to help change policy and give me a chance to influence change." says Ms. Vandenberghe, "I am truly honoured to be receiving this award from the ACR; it tells me someone is listening and that itself, means the world to me."

Both awards will be presented at ACR's Annual Awards Banquet being held on the evening of February 1st, 2019 at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton, Alberta. Following the award presentation will be a highlight Keynote Speaker; The Right Honourable Stephen Harper – Canada's 22nd Prime Minister speaking on "Right Here, Right Now – Future of Populism in the age of disruption".

If media are interested in interviewing an award winner, please contact Amanda Rose to schedule time. Media will not be able to access the full event and only a select few interviews will be held, based on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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The Alberta Chamber of Resources is a member-driven organization involved in resource development in Alberta. Members include mining, energy and forestry sector companies – those that create resource-based products, and those who provide the diverse infrastructure, products and services essential to resource development. The organization has been pivotal in helping advance responsible development of Alberta's natural resource base since its inception in 1936.