

## The Awards Selection

Any individual or organization, resident in Alberta, may submit a nomination. Award winners are not required to be members of the Alberta Museums Association. All nominations are adjudicated by an Awards Jury, consisting of three randomly selected individual members of the Alberta Museums Association.

It is with great pleasure that the Alberta Museums Association presents the successful Award recipients for 2005.

## Lieutenant Governor's Award



### **DUNCAN F. CAMERON**

**Calgary**

**Nominated by the Board and Staff of the Alberta Museums Association**

Duncan Cameron found that in 2005 he would be celebrating not only Alberta's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday but also his own 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 50<sup>th</sup> active year of his career in the field of museums. Mr. Cameron began his museum career at the Royal Ontario Museum in July of 1956. Many years later, he now finds himself looking back over a rewarding career filled with both successes and challenges.

After a few years at the Royal Ontario Museum, Duncan struck out on his own and formed Canada's first cultural resources consultancy, Janus Museum Consultants Ltd. This newly formed consulting company's first major contract was Ontario's 1967 Centennial project, The Ontario Museum of Science and Technology, later renamed the Ontario Science Centre. This centennial project led directly to another as Mr. Cameron took on the responsibility for the care, handling and installation of all materials borrowed from institutions across the country for Expo '67 in Montreal.

Also on the national stage, Duncan Cameron was involved with the restructuring of the Canadian Conference of the Arts in 1968, and was responsible for organizing the first Canadian Conference on Cultural Policy in 1970. In 1985, Duncan was awarded the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) Award of Merit and in 1992 he was made a Fellow of the CMA.

Internationally, Duncan Cameron is regarded as a driving force in the establishment of the "new museology" movement of the early 1970s - one of the most progressive museum movements of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He has presented papers at numerous international conferences including the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Duncan Cameron's most renowned work is *The Museum: The Temple or the Forum*. This paper was originally written for an Annual Museum Lecture at the University of Colorado. *The Museum* was later published in America's most prestigious museum journal, *Curator*. Weeks later, it was also published in the *Journal of World History*, a UNESCO publication, and Mr. Cameron has continued to receive copyright clearance requests from across the world ever since. This publication has become a backbone of museum theory and is still used as a standard text in museum studies programs around the world.

Duncan Cameron has worked directly with museums in the United States and New Zealand. He has served as President of the Commonwealth Association of Museums and is a Fellow of the Museums Association (United Kingdom).

In Alberta, Duncan Cameron is best known for his work as Director of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute from 1977 to 1988. Mr. Cameron led the Glenbow's evolution from a small regional museum to the largest museum in Western Canada and a national and international leader in the field of museology. Mr. Cameron used a method of bringing in blockbuster international exhibitions to generate profits for the museum that were directed into designing and installing professional permanent galleries. This rhythm of visiting exhibits and newly developed permanent exhibits built the foundation for the Glenbow to become the museum "Where the World Meets the West." Mr. Cameron is to this day, and for life, Director-Emeritus of the Glenbow-Alberta Institute.

In the years since his retirement from the Glenbow, Duncan has continued researching, writing and presenting papers in current museological theory. He is still active in the academic and international museum world, and he is often asked to give presentations and talks on museum theory. At 75 years of age, Duncan Cameron has had many achievements in his life and he continues to work at challenging the museum community to ask itself the question "why?" Duncan Cameron's exceptional contributions to the field of museology and his achievements at the provincial, national and international level are extraordinary and much deserving of recognition.