

# Noreen Rustad

Noreen moved to Prince George with her parents Bea and Garvin Dezell in 1946. She has always had a strong community volunteer commitment, working over the years with the following organizations:

- Brownies and Guides
- Children's Drama Groups
- Meals on Wheels
- Festival of the Arts
- Studio 2880
- Prince George Weavers' and Spinners' Guild
- Guild of Canadian Weavers
- Prince George Community Foundation
- UNBC Board of Governors

For her volunteer efforts Noreen has been awarded

- Life membership in the Prince George Weavers and Spinners Guild
- The City of Prince George Award of Merit for Recreation 1992
- The Rotary Citizen of the Year 1992
- The Governor General's 125 Commemorative Medal, 1992
- Honorary Alumni UNBC, 2001
- The Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal 2002
- Woman of the Year Award – Impact and Influence 2002

She has received a life membership in the Prince George Weavers' & Spinners' Guild for her ongoing support of this group over a period of 20 years (she served on most executive positions and as president for three separate 2 year terms).

She received Master Weaver certification in 1986 from the national weaving organization The Guild of Canadian Weavers. At that time she was only the 14<sup>th</sup> person to receive this accreditation since the inception of the program the 1940s.

In 1996 Noreen became one of the founding directors of the Prince George Community Foundation. She served 2 years as director in charge of marketing and fund development, 2 years as vice president, 3 years as president and is continuing to serve as advisor to the Foundation. This organization has become a passion for Noreen who sees this work as helping citizens create a lasting legacy that will benefit following generations

Noreen is married to Jim Rustad (47 years!). They have three grown children and 4 grandchildren. Many of the family still live in Prince George so her commitment to creating a better community is strengthened by this fact.