

ALUS Canada 2019 Dave Reid Awards

Submitted by ALUS Canada

Red Deer County, Alberta, June 4, 2019 | ALUS Canada presents the 2019 Dave Reid Awards to farmers and ranchers for innovation in producing ecosystem services.

During a special event held today at Rolyn Ranch in Alberta, ALUS Canada presented the 2019 Dave Reid Award, worth \$10,000, and two runner-up awards, worth \$1,500 and \$500 respectively, to Canadian farmers and ranchers who are excellent stewards of the land and who have done innovative work in producing ecological services through the ALUS program.

The 2019 Dave Reid Award was presented Tom and Margaret Towers, of Tamara Ranch in Red Deer County, Alberta. Towers has been an ALUS PAC member and Farmer Liaison since 2016 and, as ALUS Red Deer County participants, the Towers maintain 45 acres of ALUS projects, including wetlands and riparian zones, native trees and shrubs, wildlife-friendly fencing and alternative watering systems for livestock.



“For their outstanding land-stewardship ethic, their commitment to innovation as producers, for their longstanding dedication to rebuilding Canada’s natural heritage, and for the impressive legacy they have created for future generations, Tom and Margaret Towers are very deserving recipients of the 2019 Dave Reid Award,” said ALUS Canada CEO Bryan Gilvesy.

“We are honoured to receive this Canada-wide recognition,” said Tom Towers. “We will continue to produce ecological services, and be the change we envision in the world, one acre at a time.”

A special Runner-Up prize went to ALUS Mountain View participants Jerremie and Rita Clyde, of Little Loaves Farm, “for their role as proud, vocal, and effective advocates for ALUS,” said ALUS Canada’s Western Lead, Rhonda King, who presented them with the prize.




Darren and Maria Smith, of Good Land Farms in Parkland County, Alberta, received an Honourable Mention prize, presented by ALUS Canada Agrologist Howie Bjorge.



Formerly known as the ALUS Canada Producer Innovation Award, the Dave Reid Award has previously been presented to Joe Csoff (ALUS Norfolk) in [2018](#) and Gerry Taillieu (ALUS Parkland) in [2016](#). The award is supported by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, ALUS Canada's primary philanthropic partner.

ALUS Canada congratulates all 2019 award-recipients. Thanks to ALUS Red Deer County participants Rob and Lynda Purdie for their kind hospitality, as well as to ALUS' supporters and partners, such as the Alberta Real Estate Foundation and Innotech Alberta, for their presence at the event.

All ALUS supporters, program coordinators, PAC members and participants are to be congratulated for helping to rebuild Canada's natural heritage for the benefit of Canadian communities.



ALUS
Canada
A Weston Family Initiative

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

**Award Presentation
The Dave Reid Award
2019**

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ABOUT ALUS CANADA

ALUS Canada, A Weston Family Initiative, is a national program helping farmers and ranchers to produce cleaner air, cleaner water, more biodiversity and other ecosystem services in their communities. ALUS Canada has so far disbursed nearly \$8.1 M in funding to 25 ALUS communities, an investment that is multiplied by farmers, ranchers and communities on the ground. As a result, there are now nearly 24,000 acres enrolled in the ALUS program, thanks to 750 participants in six provinces, and the program is rapidly expanding. For more information, please visit ALUS.ca.

ABOUT ALUS RED DEER COUNTY

Established in 2013 as a partnership between ALUS Canada and Red Deer County, the ALUS Red Deer County program now has more than 100 participants, who have enrolled almost 5,000 acres into ALUS. Under the guidance of a multi-stakeholder Partnership Advisory Committee, these participants produce ecosystem services for the benefit of the public, such as flood and drought resilience, fish and wildlife habitat, improved water quality, and enhanced forest and riparian areas. For more information, visit the [ALUS Red Deer County webpage](#).