



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MOV Announces 2013 City Shaper Awards Honourees: Ray Spaxman, MEC, and Tamara Vrooman

(Vancouver, BC) — The Museum of Vancouver will present its City Shaper Awards to recipients Ray Spaxman, Mountain Equipment Co-Op, and Tamara Vrooman at the MOV Legacy Dinner, presented by Maynards, this upcoming Wednesday, October 2, 2013.

Honoured for his work as a visionary architect and city planner, Ray Spaxman will be taking home the MOV Legacy Award. “This award is a wonderful recognition of the city planning work undertaken in the ’70s and ’80s that led to the status Vancouver has come to enjoy in the world,” says Spaxman. “It is the result of the creative synergy between politicians, staff, and citizens in those two decades.”

The Livable City Award, being presented for its first time this year, will go to Mountain Equipment Co-Op for their pioneering business. “Vancouver gave rise to Mountain Equipment Co-op in 1971,” explains Shona McGlashan, representing Mountain Equipment Co-Op. “Since then, MEC has grown to become Canada’s most vibrant outdoor retailer ... We are delighted to be recognized as a city shaper in the city that helped shape our identity.”

Finally, the 2013 Emerging City Visionary Award will be going to Tamara Vrooman, CEO of Vancity for her remarkable work. “I am honored to receive an award that supports a vision of everyone working together to meet the long-term needs of the community and the people who live and work in this city,” remarks Vrooman. “I’m truly excited about the future opportunities that will support us as we continue to create a city that is innovative, sustainable and inclusive.”

Recipients were chosen by a committee of city historians, urban planners, business and philanthropic influencers, and representatives of the MOV Board of Directors.

“At the MOV we see the city as a living artifact, and part of that is recognizing the work that has been done by people to make it what it is today,” explains Nancy Noble, Museum of Vancouver CEO. “In this second year of awards we’re really starting to see what incredible minds and initiative we have within our city, and we’re excited to be recognizing these three for their contributions to our city’s story.”

Taking place in the MOV’s landmark building in Vanier Park, the Legacy Dinner will offer guests an exclusive museum experience complete with live music, fine wine, and scrumptious food. Visit the MOV’s website at www.museumofvancouver.ca/legacydinner to purchase tickets, for background on the honorees, and further details on how the awards were selected.

The Museum of Vancouver is thrilled to partner with Maynards Auctioneers on this year’s dinner and thanks them for their ongoing support. Other sponsors include BDO, Prospect Winery, The Butler Did It Catering, and Lonsdale Rentals.

The Museum of Vancouver is an independent non-profit organization with the mandate to hold a mirror to the city and lead provocative conversations about its past, present, and future.

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About Ray Spaxman

Ray Spaxman, LL.D, ARIBA, MRTPI, FCIP, RPP, Hon AIBC; Architect

Ray is an architect and planner with over 50 years of experience in planning and urban design, with more accomplishments to his name than can be noted in this short description. During his time with the City of Vancouver he established public participation and community engagement in planning, helped in developing the City's View Protection Policies, and produced plans for Downtown, West End, False Creek, Granville Island, Kitsilano, Champlain Heights, Kensington, Southlands, and Fairview Slopes. Since then he has developed urban design projects both here and abroad, including Vancouver's High Building Policies.

About MEC

In 1971, a group of west coast mountaineers made a decision to do business differently, and they turned an unconventional retail model into a thriving business. Today, MEC is Canada's largest co-operative by membership and is the leading specialty retailer of outdoor clothing, gear, and accessories. MEC's purpose is to inspire and enable all Canadians to live active outdoor lifestyles.

About Tamara Vrooman

Tamara Vrooman; Chief Executive Officer, Vancity

As Chief Executive Officer of Canada's largest community credit union, Tamara Vrooman harnesses the strength of Vancity to fulfill its vision of redefining wealth for members and communities. Under Tamara's leadership, Vancity became the first carbon neutral credit union in North America, the first Canadian financial institution invited to join Global Alliance for Banking on Values (GABV), and the largest organization in Canada with a living wage policy.