



John Bate

John Bate was a lifelong advocate for recreation and public service, retiring in 1997 as Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Victoria. He is fondly remembered for his vibrant dedication during his three decades as Assistant Manager of the Memorial Arena, a role he began in 1965.

Throughout his remarkable career, John also served as Assistant Manager of Royal Athletic Park, McPherson Playhouse, and the Royal Theatre, as well as Manager of the Crystal Pool. In 1970, he advanced to Deputy Director of Recreation for the City of Victoria, where he continued to shape the community's recreational landscape. His outstanding contributions to the field were honoured in 1993 with a lifetime membership to the RFABC.

John passed away in the fall of 2023 at the age of 87, leaving a legacy of service, passion, and dedication to recreation that continues to inspire. This award, established in his honour, celebrates individuals who embody his spirit of commitment to recreation and community well-being.

