

July 1 2022

Shelley Fralic Award.

It is a privilege to nominate Deb Hope for the inaugural Shelley Fralic award. As editor-in-chief of The Vancouver Sun and as News Director of BCTV and then Global TV I had the honour - and pleasure - of working closely with them both.

They had much in common. Superb journalists committed to British Columbia and to their readers and viewers. They both had the common touch - they could reach ordinary people everywhere throughout the province with their accessible and human and often humorous approach. They both had a wonderful sense of community, and what people cared about. And they both cared. And both of them brooked no nonsense. They wanted to get to the heart of the story and no excuses.

And I happen to know they liked and respected one another very much. It figures. We all loved both of them because they brought heart and soul to their profession. And how they laughed - and made us laugh.

Deb recently received the Order of Canada both for her journalism and committed charitable service. Her supporting letters came from the likes of Jimmy Pattison and the many charities she supported and gave a voice.

I speak of both Shelley and Deb in the past tense, which is sad but also not quite accurate. Shelley has passed on and Deb has a dementia that means she is no longer working day to day and no longer able to recognize her friends and family. But they are both still with us. They will endure. They are part of the fabric of the great journalism in this country and province.

We are lucky to have known them.

Many thanks.

Sincerely

Ian Haysom

Journalist