

President's Award Presented to Jim Fowler by James Dies President of the Victoria Camera Club at the 2025 AGM

I did something a little different in deciding who to give the President's award to this year. I went to our club leaders and asked them who they would recommend if they had to choose someone.

They made it easy for me to choose as almost everyone pointed to the same candidate. He has been a member since 2016 and his contributions to the club have been many and very significant to the club's success.

This award is long overdue and very well deserved. Everyone in the club will agree with that.

Since Jim took the helm of External Competitions, we have seen a significant rise in both the number of people participating and the quality of the works submitted. During Jim's tenure the club has often finished in the top three and never fails to get an honorable mention.

It is one of his strengths that Jim reaches out and offers constructive criticism and good advice to people who want to do better in their photography. He is consistently positive and always there for those who want to learn more.

Of all our club's activities, External Competitions is by far the most visible to the outside world. As I have said a few times, the world sees our club through External Competitions. It is a window into our club.

Just a brief history: Jim has been passionate about photography since he was 8 years old. He even had his dad build a darkroom in his house. He joined his first camera club at UBC where he was studying law, I believe. He has been doing photography ever since.

Jim has been such a positive asset to the club and is very much esteemed in the eyes of his peers in the club. I know this because I asked them. So, Jim, this is coming from your peers. It was their recommendation.

We want Jim to continue doing the great work he's doing. The club looks forward to his continuing leadership and the continued success he brings to this club.

James Dies – President – Victoria Camera Club