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# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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## GADSAR's Speers receives McKnight Ski Award



*Golden & District Community Foundation's Ryan Watmough congratulates Golden and District Search and Rescue's Shauna Speers, the 2015 recipient of the Mike McKnight Ski Industry Award.*

(Golden, BC) – The Golden & District Community Foundation has just announced that the recipient of the 2015 Mike McKnight Ski Industry Award is Shauna Speers. This Award was created in late 2009 to honour the memory of one of Golden’s community builders, Mike McKnight.

The Award is granted to an institution or training organization for a nominated student, or students, of their choosing. The Award recipient must be “*a Golden resident who has a history of community involvement and who is entering into or continuing in a training program for employment in the ski industry. Employment includes, without limiting employment only to, winter guides, ski patrol, higher level ski or boarding instructor, ski area management and search and rescue.*”

Ms. Speers has called Golden ‘home’ for 10 years and has held many positions within the mountain safety environment. She recently completed the Canadian Avalanche Association’s Industry Training Program “Introduction to Weather” course.

Ms. Speers has been an employee at KHMR since 2007, working in various jobs including Mountain Safety Dispatcher, Ski Patroller, Via Ferrata Guide and Grizzly Bear Refuge Ranger.

According to nominator, Kyle Hale of Golden and District Search and Rescue (GADSAR), “Shauna also volunteers a large amount of time to GADSAR in the capacity as SAR Manager. Shauna commits many extra hours grant writing, instructing weekly training, organizing events for the group, advising on the Provincial Medical Direction Working Group and countless other projects that greatly benefit GADSARs on-going operations.”

Information on the GDCF’s Mike McKnight Ski Industry Award is available on [www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca/grantapps.html](http://www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca/grantapps.html) beginning October 1st of each year.

***About the Golden & District Community Foundation***

*The Golden & District Community Foundation’s mission is to attract and effectively grow permanent funds; provide leadership and administration that helps in addressing significant community needs; and help donors fulfill their philanthropic interests.*

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