

## **Background Information**

### **King Charles III Coronation Medal Presentation**

#### **The King Charles III Coronation Medal:**

The King Charles III Coronation Medal is the first Canadian commemorative medal to mark a coronation and will be awarded to 30,000 deserving individuals across the country for significant achievements in their communities.

The outstanding commitment to community service and advocacy in Nanaimo – Ladysmith is thoroughly demonstrated by the great number of individuals who were nominated by their peers to Member of Parliament Lisa Marie Barron to receive this recognition. These individuals exude leadership qualities that foster well-being, inspire connection, and encourage participation in creating strong, healthy communities.

#### **The Medal Recipient, Horst Backé:**

Retired nurse, senior public health care manager, and long-time AIDS activist Horst Backé moved to Nanaimo in 2016. Experienced in LGBTQ refugee sponsorship, he was influential in founding Reaching Out Assisting Refugees, or ROAR, with local volunteers. He tirelessly works to resettle LGBTQ refugees from around the world. With his inspiring dedication, organizational and mentoring skills, ROAR has brought seven newcomers to Nanaimo with more waiting abroad looking forward to safety and dignity in Canada.