



## Women in Sport, Physical Activity & Recreation

### Debra Ashby

#### **SPRA Award of Merit**

This award is presented to an individual, group or SPRA member organization for significant and distinguished contribution at the local, district and/or provincial level. The Award recipient has demonstrated creativity through the development of parkland, the promotion of active lifestyles and/or the revitalization of existing or creation of new programs and services.

Debra received her Bachelors of Science in Physical Education, with a major in Fitness, in 1980 from the University of Saskatchewan. She began working as the Recreation Director in Bengough in November 1980. In this role, she has been actively involved in anything and everything that relates to recreation, sport, culture and tourism. She is the administrative head in charge of all recreational facilities and activities and is responsible for the coordination of all recreation programs in the community.

Debra is no stranger to planning, scheduling and organizing events- ranging from curling bonspiels, to fund raising events, to community festivals. She has assisted neighbouring communities with funding applications, facility operations and park development. As a person who values fitness and wellness, she is also trained as a SPRA Fitness Leader and leads fitness classes and Forever...in motion classes in the Town of Bengough and surrounding area. In her spare time, Debra is the Coach and Official for Community Sports including Baseball, Softball, Curling and Gymnastics and Secretary/Treasurer for a number of groups including the Bengough Dance Club, Bengough & District Museum and the Bengough Economic Development & Tourism Committee. Debra is also the Leader for the Bengough Youth Group and a volunteer member of the South West District Sport, Culture and Recreation Association.

Through both her professional and volunteer endeavours, Debra has had a positive impact on the field of recreation at the community, district and provincial level.

