

## 2005 BCLSS Volunteer Awards

This year saw a slightly different approach to the volunteer awards presented by BCLSS. Rather than a single individual award, three groups from the Peace region were recognized for their outstanding efforts: the Charlie Lake Conservation Society; the Swan Lake Enhancement Society; and the Moberly Lake Community Association. The groups were recognized by BCLSS director Bruce Carmichael at the Conference held in Moberly Lake on June 25 & 26, 2005. Congratulations to this year's volunteer recognition awards recipients!! Thank you for your hard work & efforts to protect & preserve B.C.'s lakes.

The **Charlie Lake Conservation Society** has been active since 1996. The Society has conducted volunteer water quality monitoring on Charlie Lake, near Fort St. John, yearly since 2003. Founding Director Allan Blair, Edward Stanford (President), Brian Churchill (VP), Bruce Kosugi, Stan Gladysz, Lindsay Sahaydak, Bob Baradell, Pam and Craig Okrainec have collected informative data on this internally loading northern lake which will be summarized in a lake brochure this winter. The Society has also taken a lead role in tributary stream monitoring of phosphorus and sediment, shoreline management including riparian planting, oil & gas erosion assessment, environmental education and fund raising. Thanks to the guidance of consultants Barry Booth and Todd French, the Society is also actively involved in management of the Charlie Lake watershed, where lakeshore residences, recreation use, agriculture and oil and gas development are very common.



BCLSS Director Reg Whiten presenting Ed Stanford of the Charlie Lake Conservation Society with award

The **Swan Lake Enhancement Society** has been active since 2002 and has conducted volunteer water quality monitoring on Swan Lake, near Dawson Creek, yearly since 2003. President Allan Watson, VP Dale Brown and members Janet and Dwight Stevens, Mike Heily, Ed Sargent, Murray Clark, Richard Bouvier, Darren Erickson, Tim Schram, Ernie Heller have collected informative data on this northern prairie lake which will be summarized in a lake brochure this winter. Other members include Hildegard Huetten, Sara Kolkea and Eric Schindler. The Society has also taken a lead role in monitoring tributaries to Swan Lake (including wetlands), riparian planting projects, cleaning & maintaining the weir and fish ladder, environmental education and fund raising. Along with the earlier Save Swan Lake Society and its director, Jules Bouvier, the society has also been responsible for water level control of Swan Lake since the

1980s. The Society hopes to use the data collected to promote effective land-use management of the Swan Lake watershed.

The **Moberly Lake Community Association (MLCA)**, active since 1992, has conducted volunteer water quality monitoring on the often stormy Moberly Lake. Initiated in 1995 by Association President Steffie Ackroyd, the Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) collection started with the help of Sue and Barry Cubitt in 1995, and continued again between 1999 and 2003 after a Watershed Committee was organized by MLCA Director Reg Whiten. With the help of other volunteers Andy Teslyk, Elmer Kabush, Pat McPhail, Ian Campbell, Bob Bach and Mike Spenst and Carmen Hazelhurst, the group collected high quality data that have reported in Ministry of Environment brochures on two occasions. The MLCA has also conducted riparian planting, shoreline erosion-control projects, and has completed numerous 'Homesite Assessments' in partnership with the Peace River Watershed Council and the Living By Water project. Additional water testing for bacteria was recently completed by Ministry of Environment staff around Moberly Lake and the Upper Moberly with the help of MLCA volunteers. Other major initiatives of the society include waste transfer station management, completion of a community hall and assistance in development of two water supply infrastructure projects for fire-protection and domestic drinking purposes. Currently, the group is undertaking completion of an extensive watershed planning initiative in this area of increasing oil and gas, mining and logging development.



Alex Hunter, Andy Teslyk, Elmer Kabush, Bob Bach, and Rhonda Merritt of the MLCA accepting award from BCLSS Director Reg Whiten