

West Van residents among new appointments to the Order of Canada

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West Vancouver businessman and philanthropist Frank Giustra and Goh Ballet Academy director Chan Hon Goh are newly appointed to the Order of Canada. file photos

A pair of North Shore residents have been appointed to the Order of Canada.

Businessman and philanthropist Frank Giustra and ballet dancer and artistic director Chan Hon Goh, both of West Vancouver, were among 83 new appointees from across the country announced by Gov. Gen. Julie Payette last week.

Goh, who's the director of Goh Ballet Academy and Youth Company Canada as well as the artistic director of Global Dance Challenge, received the national honour for her "excellence in ballet as a principal dancer, artistic director and cultural ambassador," according to a press release from the Governor General's office.

Goh retired from her performing career in 2010 after spending more than 20 years as a principal dancer with the National Ballet of Canada.

Giustra, the CEO of Fiore Group and founder of Lionsgate Entertainment, received the honour for "his impactful contributions to business and to international humanitarian initiatives addressing global crises and development," according to the release.

Giustra made headlines earlier this year after suing Twitter, claiming the social media company published defamatory statements about him in relation to the 2016 U.S. election and his charitable work in support of the Clinton Foundation.

The Order of Canada is considered one of the country's highest honours. Almost 7,000 people have been invested into the Order of Canada since its inception in 1967, according to the Governor General's office.