



**For his services to polar marine science, Ian has received numerous awards, including**

- Officer, Order of Canada (2000)
- Northern Science Award, a lifetime achievement honour from the Canadian Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs (2003)
- Elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (2007)
- National Conservation Achievement Award in the Special Achievement Category, National Wildlife Federation (US) (2009)
- Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal (2012)
- Honorary Doctorate of Science, University of British Columbia (2013)
- Honorary Doctorate of Science, University of Alberta (2013)
- Lifetime achievement award, Society for Marine Mammalogy (2013)

## Dr Ian Stirling OC, FRSC

1963 Bachelor of Science, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

1966 Master of Science University of British Columbia, Vancouver

1969 PhD in Zoology, UC

Ian is one of the world's top authorities on polar bears and his long-term studies have confirmed the negative effects of climate warming and loss of sea ice is having on the species.

His career as a research scientist for the Canadian Wildlife Service at Environment Canada spanned 37 years following his PhD studies at UC where he investigated population ecology of Weddell seals in Antarctica.

Retiring in 2007, Ian remains active in research as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta and as a Research Scientist Emeritus with the Wildlife Research Division of Environment Canada.

Ian's research focus has been on polar bear ecology, population assessment, and the relationships between polar bears, seals, and ice conditions. He has published

over 250 scientific articles and 5 books.

Ian is well-known for his commitment to the conservation of polar marine mammals and served on the Scientific Advisory Board and Board of Directors for the World Wildlife Fund (Canada) 1985–2002.

“The opportunities I had while at UC to conduct research on Weddell seals in Antarctica and fur seals around the coast of New Zealand set the stage for a lifetime in polar research and provided the background of understanding that enabled me to frame aspects of ecological research in the Arctic in a broader polar context, particularly with respect to predator-prey relationships and the evolution of social behavior in pinnipeds that I don't think would have been possible without the perspectives I gained in your part of the world.”

