

**The Bobbie Steen Award of Excellence** was created to acknowledge an individual who demonstrates exemplary leadership in sport and recreation making a contribution to promote opportunities for girls and women who serve as an outstanding role model.

The 2004 recipient of the Bobbie Steen Award of Excellence is **Bill Holden**

Bill Holden has watched for years as women progress through the difficult ranks of competitive cycling. With Bill's enthusiasm and hard work he created the Category 4 Novice Women's Road Race Series for entry-level competitors. His main objective for the Series was to introduce the sport of road racing to female competitors in a fun and friendly environment. Racers collect points earned by finishing an event, that lead to an Overall Championship. Participation grew from 5 participants at the beginning to close to 50 by the end of the Championship, with many progressing onto higher levels of competition. The series was such a huge success that Victoria is creating a similar series, which in turn will bring a higher number of women into the sport. Bill will use the grant to pursue his NCCP/CBET certification and continue his involvement in the sport he demonstrates such great passion for.

- Currently Level 1 road coach.
- Bill started a very active website promoting the Race Series

[www.members.shaw.ca/womenscat4raodracing](http://www.members.shaw.ca/womenscat4raodracing)

- Website caters to unique needs of entry-level female athletes; identifies programs, team rides, training tips, Series results and current standings.
- Bill sought sponsorship for the Series, and created trophies and recognition items for top contestants
- Due to the tremendous popularity of this program and volume of women involved in the sport, Cycling BC is hosting its first Women's Cycling Conference February 7<sup>th</sup>.