



The 45th Provincial Volunteer Awards

*April 1, 2019
Casino Nova Scotia
Schooner Room
Halifax, Nova Scotia*



Lieutenant Governor's Message

As Her Majesty's representative in Nova Scotia, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 45th Annual Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony.

Every day, and in every community across the province, people of all ages and backgrounds give their time in service to others. This service takes its form in helping others who are less fortunate than ourselves or by advancing causes that improve the lives of our fellow Nova Scotians. Collectively, these activities and deeds demonstrate the compassion and caring that is so characteristic of our citizens. This extraordinary level of volunteerism also makes this province one of the finest places to live in Canada.

We gather today to express our thanks for the valuable work of our volunteers. It is highly appropriate that their work is publicly lauded and that we demonstrate that we do not take for granted what they do for others.

On behalf of the Queen, I offer my sincere gratitude and best wishes to the volunteers honoured today and all the volunteers across the province who contribute to the well-being of our communities.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Arthur J. LeBlanc".

The Honourable
Arthur J. LeBlanc, ONS, QC
Lieutenant Governor

*Nova Scotia Communities, Culture & Heritage
is pleased to host the Provincial Volunteer Awards
and would like to congratulate all award recipients.*



Premier's Message

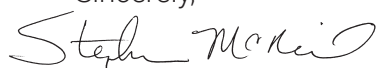
On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I am proud to congratulate and thank all Nova Scotians who selflessly give their time and energy to our communities. Today is your day to be recognized with the 2019 Provincial Volunteer Awards.

Every year, thousands of volunteers help to strengthen our communities with work that is close to their hearts. Volunteers are an essential piece of Nova Scotia's social fabric. You act as mentors, coaches, and teachers. You perform numerous important services that help build a stronger, more compassionate and caring Nova Scotia.

Every year, over 410,000 Nova Scotians volunteer, contributing an average of 192 hours per year. This amounts to an astounding 79 million hours of volunteering.

I want to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to those receiving an award today – and to the many others who contribute through volunteering. Your work is integral to the success in each one of your communities.

You embody the very best of what Nova Scotia has to offer.

Sincerely,


Honourable Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.
Premier



Minister's Message

It is my honour and pleasure to welcome you to the 45th Annual Provincial Volunteer Awards ceremony. You have been selected by your community to represent the thousands of volunteers that help make our communities strong and vibrant.

We are fortunate in Nova Scotia to have such a strong tradition of volunteering and helping one another. Our communities have been strengthened by volunteers throughout our province's history; this is something we cannot take for granted.

The act of volunteering, whether it is by serving as a team coach, firefighter, as a board chair, or simply checking in on a neighbour, has significant impact on the lives of many Nova Scotians. Today's ceremony is our way of saying, "Thank you".

Today's annual awards ceremony is an important kick-off to National Volunteer Week. From April 7 to the 13, Nova Scotian and Canadian communities will celebrate and recognize the impact of volunteers on our communities, thanking them for the way in which they lift our communities.

A heart-felt thank you to this year's volunteer award recipients. Your dedication and efforts are deeply appreciated and felt by all Nova Scotians, you are proof that the potential is limitless when people decide to join hands and volunteer together.

Sincerely,

Honourable Leo Glavine
Minister of Communities, Culture & Heritage

Agenda

Opening Remarks

Lunch Service

Entree

*Roast Chicken Breast with
Caramelized Pears & Ricotta Cheese wrapped in Pancetta*

Dessert

*Lemon & Brown Sugar Apple Pie with Chantilly Cream
Coffee & Tea*

Award Ceremony

Presented by

The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, ONS, QC,
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia

The Honourable Stephen McNeil,
Premier of Nova Scotia

Volunteer Representative Awards

*Valley Region
South Shore Region
Central Region
Highland Region
Fundy Region
Cape Breton Region*

Family Volunteer Award

Youth Volunteer Award

The Honourable Leo Glavine,
Minister of Communities, Culture & Heritage

Performance by

The Maritime Bhangra Group
Closing Remarks



Emcee

Juanita Peters is an award-winning storyteller, writer and director of multiple documentaries. She is currently one of the directors of the award-winning television series STUDIO BLACK on CBC Television and has appeared in more than 30 films and television series.

In recent years she has worked for the Council on African Canadian Education (Communications), and as Knowledge Lead for The Nova Scotia Restorative Inquiry for The Home For Colored Children. Currently she holds the position of General Manager of the Africville Museum. Today she brings her talents to the stage as our emcee, to assist in regaling the work of our honoured award recipients.

Amethyst Scottish Dancers of Nova Scotia

The Amethyst Scottish Dancers of Nova Scotia began as a highland dance troupe founded in 1985 and has been entertaining audiences ever since, to share their love of dance and music. Dancers range in age between 9 and 25 and are highly trained in the art of highland and step dance. They blend Scottish steps and dances with traditional and modern music and choreography. They have collaborated and performed with local musicians including Cassie and Maggie MacDonald, Party Boots, Christy Hodder, 78th Highlanders, and the Dartmouth Pipes and Drums. Internationally, audiences have been entertained in The United States, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and as far as Dubai.



The Multicultural Drummers

Dr. Olugu Ukpai and his children are the heart of The Multicultural Drummers - a family devoted to bringing awareness to Africa's fight for children with Malaria. Dr. Ukpai founded the group in 2016 after tragically losing his youngest child to the disease. The family brings their drumming skills to communities across the province to "drum up support" for this worthwhile cause, while also sharing a cultural experience with others. They have performed at the Halifax Multicultural Festival, African Youth Leadership Conference, Canadian Students' Leadership Conference, the African Heritage Month Gala Night and for the African Festival of Arts and Culture Society, to name a few. They were the local stars at the 2018 Tattoo and received the Heroes & Legends recognition from the Canadian armed forces.



Fiddlefax

(Halifax Regional Arts Music West)

Halifax Regional Arts Music is a vibrant, growing music education program staffed and supported by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education. Over 2500 students study strings, band, choir, jazz and orchestra. The programs are offered at no charge to students and help to support and enhance school music programs. The string program serves over 1100 students making the program the largest in Atlantic Canada. Fiddlefax is an ensemble for young violinists who aspire to be traditional players, with Celtic and Maritime music explored with students in grades 6 to grade 10. Today's ensemble is directed by Meghan Simmonds.



Maritime Bhangra Group

Founded by former Dalhousie student, Hasmeet Singh Chandok, the dance troupe first displayed their talents with charming and joyful videos on YouTube, quickly becoming a viral sensation. Maritime Bhangra Group members are committed to not only dancing across the Maritimes, but also visiting schools and youth groups to provide people with a taste of Sikh culture, all through the power of dance-fuelled positivity. In 2018, they were recognized as The Best Dance Group and Best Dancer as part of The Coast's Best of Halifax Awards. A true presentation of volunteerism at its best, these activists travel the province to perform, in return for donations to many of our not-for-profit organizations including the ALS Society of Canada, the MS Society of Canada and The Red Cross. Today's performance will benefit The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.





2019 Representative Volunteers

Valley Region

Nancy Belliveau

Town of Kentville

Nancy loves to teach and work with children which led her to be the driving force behind the Juniors Curling Program at the Glooscap Curling Club. She has provided countless hours over the past 11 years instructing, mentoring and developing the program to lead over 40 young curlers. Her dedication and energy have made it a resounding success and, as a result, the program is recognized as a hallmark within the (Annapolis) Valley for its positive impact on youth.

Wayne Blenkhorn

Village of Port Williams

It was Chairperson Wayne Blenkhorn's 34 years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces, including one tour in the Middle East as a Peacekeeper, that inspired the formation of the Remembrance Day Observance Committee 13 years ago. It is a collaborative effort between volunteer groups, village staff, veterans, the Port Williams Recreation Committee, local churches and local schools. Wayne has been the guiding force behind the annual service, which has been growing in recognition and attendance since its inception in 2005. The annual event has helped to educate the public about Canada's peacekeeping missions and created personal connections within the Community.

Kathie Brown

Village of New Minas

Kathie started her volunteer career as a candy striper at the Berwick Hospital. Since then she has volunteered for many years at New Minas Elementary and Evangeline Middle School to help with numerous programs and fundraising initiatives. She has been very involved with the local soccer association for 20 years, helping to raise money, organize regional tournaments and build soccer fields. Kathie has been integral in supporting the Village of New Minas' Leadership Representative. This includes building and transporting the Princess float, travelling to and from civic events with the Princess and her Child attendant, arranging accommodations and organizing the Princess Tea. Her support has given numerous young women and children the opportunity to travel the province and represent their community.

Blaine and Donna Eldridge

Town of Windsor

During their 38 years of marriage, Blaine and Donna live by the mantra, “pay it forward.” The Eldridge home has been a sanctuary for many foster children and those in need. For the past 17 years, they have also run Harvest House, an emergency shelter and safe haven, coordinating fundraising efforts, a soup kitchen and offering guidance to those in recovery. Drawing attention to the plight of our homeless, they spent a cold November night in a cardboard shelter while volunteers collected donations from passing motorists. They are currently fundraising as part of a capital campaign to secure a permanent home for Harvest House.

Phillip Gates

Town of Middleton

At 79 years old, Phillip continues to have a major impact on making things happen for his community. He has been directly involved in raising more than half of the funds for the Middleton Lions Club and has provided countless hours of cooking, cleaning and acting as maintenance man for the Club’s facility. His commitment to his community extends to supporting the Christmas Mommies and Daddies, the Diabetes Society, as well as Guide Dogs and International Sight initiatives.

Wayne MacDonald

Municipality of the County of Annapolis

As a volunteer, Wayne shares his leadership and management skills to build confidence in teams focused on results. He has been an avid volunteer in his community and the province for many years. Wayne has played an active role in the Nova Scotia Health Authority Board of Directors, the Annapolis West Health Foundation and the Friends of the Annapolis Community Health Centre. He has also dedicated his time to the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 21), Trans County Transportation Society, the Wharf Rat Rally Motorcycle Association and a variety of local organizations.

Lonnie McNeill

Municipality of Clare

Lonnie dedicates his volunteer efforts to the promotion and advancement of the Clare Special Olympics to provide its athletes

with a greater sense of belonging and accomplishment within their community. As a member of their board of directors, he oversees event and fundraising activities while providing countless hours of his time to coach and travel with athletes. He also lends his coaching abilities to the sports of bocci and curling and is always willing to assist other coaches with their endeavors.

Adrian Nette

Town of Annapolis Royal

Annapolis Royal’s “Man with a Truck,” Adrian has been volunteering in his community since the 1990’s. His motivation and determination made him a key leader in the ARCARE Project – an initiative that helped to bring a Sudanese refugee family of seven to Annapolis Royal. He continues to mentor the youth in the family, provides home repairs and assists them with integrating into their new community. Having an artist’s attention to detail, Adrian has also helped with the creation of sets for the local theater and continues to act as President of the Wharf Association.

Roger Outhouse

Municipality of the District of Digby

With an enormous passion for preserving and promoting the natural wonders of the Bay of Fundy, Roger’s volunteer work is almost always focused on the natural beauty of his community. For the past 20 years he has volunteered with the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association, Freeport Development Association, Islands Historical Society, and Passages - a local monthly newsletter. Roger has held various offices with the Freeport Baptist Church for the past 35 years and is a founding member of the Digby and Area Tourism Association.

Cyndi Palmer

Town of Berwick

The Town of Berwick is honoured to posthumously recognize Cyndi Palmer as their Provincial Representative Volunteer. Stephen Palmer is here to accept the award in her name.

Over the past thirty years, Cyndi and her husband raised five children, who are all recognized community ambassadors, and was dedicated to the betterment of her community by enriching the lives of our youth. She was a member and past president of the Berwick Volunteer Fire

Department Ladies Auxiliary, member and past president of the Berwick School Band Parent Association, past president of the Berwick Gala Days committee and a 4H leader. Cyndi was also a dedicated volunteer within the Annapolis Valley Catholic Churches. A meticulous organizer, she enthusiastically gave her time and energy to those around her and passionately encouraged others to do the same.

David Peters

Municipality of the District of West Hants

The Municipality of West Hants is honoured to posthumously recognize David Peters as their Provincial Representative Volunteer. Mary Peters is here to accept the award in his name.

For over 35 years, David was a passionate and dedicated volunteer within several government organizations. He held volunteer executive positions within the NSGEU, the Federation of Labour and the National Union of Public and General Employees. He was also an appointed member of the Board of Trustees for the Public Services Superannuation Plan. His exemplary leadership within the Southwest Hants Fire Society resulted in numerous improvements in the hall, the community and community spirit. His favorite saying was, "I'm the dreamer and you're the doer," and he brought the doers out in everyone.

Kimberly Smith

Municipality of the County of Kings

Kimberly has been an advocate for inclusive education and cultural programming for more than 25 years. He served as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Community Association of People for Real Enterprise and helped navigate CAPRE to full charitable status. He continues to volunteer for the fundraising committee to provide graphic design skills and technical support for the website and Facebook page. Kim also served as official advisor for People First Kings County, an advocacy group for people with intellectual disabilities, to help members take charge of running their own meetings and to learn how to actively advocate for themselves.

Ronald VanTassel

Town of Digby

Ron has been a dedicated, dependable, conscientious and committed community volunteer for 45 years. Ron has been a member of the Admiral Digby Library and Historical Society Board of Trustees for five consecutive years. Being an avid golfer, he was an executive member of the East Coast Golf Classic for 20 years, assisted with the Digby Pines Pro-Am and the Digby Pines Junior Golf Program, and is currently Treasurer of the Digby Golf Club.

Linda Wheeldon

Town of Wolfville

Linda gives countless hours to many community groups offering explicit and thoughtful civic engagement in support of mental health and well-being. Her volunteer activities are diverse and work to raise awareness and standards. For the past 17 years, she has directed the Women of Wolfville Theatre Collective mentoring women and raising funds for women and children, through a performance each year. She has held executive positions within the NS College of Counselling Therapists, Workshop Council of NS, Flower Cart in New Minas as well as supporting community groups such as the Deep Roots Music Cooperative.

Lorraine Whitman

Glooscap First Nation

Lorraine is a proud Mi'kmaw woman with a passion to influence positive change for women's rights, youth education and indigenous issues. She speaks at numerous events, representing her community with pride, to share Mi'kmaw culture with others. For more than 25 years, she has held a volunteer role in her community as a planner, organizer, speaker and leader. She has volunteered for 4H clubs, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls events, Sisters in Spirit initiatives, and Girl Power programs. She models respectful behaviors, shares traditional teachings, and empowers members to reach their greatest potential.



2019 Representative Volunteers

South Shore Region

Lauren Amirault

Region of Queens Municipality

As a volunteer, Lauren shares her considerable talents in sport and charitable deeds for her community. She has volunteered with Queens County Blades Skating Club as a program assistant and coach. She is an active volunteer at her school, Liverpool Regional High School, with the Scholarship Auction Committee, Key Club, and was selected as the Nova Scotia International Student Program Student Ambassador. Lauren was also one of 24 students in Nova Scotia to attend the Campeche International Leadership Camp in Campeche, Mexico to raise \$30,000 for their community.

Helen Atwood

Town of Clark's Harbour

Helen has been a volunteer in her community for the past 53 years. She has been a faithful member of The Seabreeze Rebekah Lodge #64 since 1969 and also volunteered for the Clarks Harbour Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, where she held the office of president for one year. She was a member of the Eastern Star for more than 25 years and recently retired from the Meals on Wheels program where she delivered meals, and friendship, to seniors in the area for the past 22 years.

Audrey Doucette

Municipality of the District of Argyle

An integral member of her community, Audrey has been a volunteer for more than 50 years. She has volunteered as District Commissioner for Girl Guides of Canada after having started as a brownie leader. She was actively involved in her children's school PTAs and has spent countless hours fundraising for sports teams. She is a church volunteer, cleaning and helping with parish events, and volunteers at the Hospital Hullabaloo. Audrey is also a member of the board of directors for her seniors' club, organizing and working at community benefits for people in need.

Cindy Embree

Town of Lockeport

Cindy has worked tirelessly for years as a member of Shelburne County Women's Fishnet. Here she has played a key role in many development programs that have led to the creation of a sheltered workshop, a

women's music festival, a community-based preschool, and an ongoing school bursary program. She is a founding member of the Harmony Bazaar Festival of Women & Song, which is now in its 14th year of operation. Her impact has been felt across Shelburne County as a Board Member of Shelburne CBDC, a member of the Roseway Hospital Foundation and a volunteer driver for Sou'west Nova Transit.

Jennie Huskilson

Municipality of the District of Shelburne

Jennie has been at the forefront of her family's commitment to help those in need and give back to her community. When her daughter Carmen died at age 5, Jennie, her husband Andrew and their son Ryan committed to honour her life by paying it forward. The Pay It Forward in Memory of Carmen Faith Huskilson initiative has raised over \$150,000 for organizations including hospitals, first responders, fire departments and schools.

John Joyce

Municipality of the District of Barrington

In his 21 years with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #148 and 18 years with the Barrington Regional Curling Club, John (JJ) has provided many hours of his time, resulting in great impact on these organizations and their members. He is committed to assisting local veterans and overseeing Legion meetings. As a member of the Board of Directors for the Barrington Regional Curling Club, he is involved with all aspects of the daily happenings, including drawing up the schedules for bonspiels and assisting with maintenance of the ice.

Cowen Kenney

Town of Yarmouth

Cowen is an inspiring teenager who makes a difference in his community through demonstrations of love and compassion. He has been actively involved in various clubs and organizations at Maple Grove Education Centre, including the Dance Committee, Performance Group, Lead Council, Band, Interact Club, Hockey, Maple Grove Community Pride and Memorial Club. He also volunteers with MC Media at the Yarmouth Mariners Centre, operating the cameras and switchboard. His greatest strength is his positive presence.

Cheryl Lamerson

Town of Lunenburg

Cheryl came to Lunenburg after a 32-year military career, bringing with her the kind of leadership that causes effective change and has dedicated her time and expertise to benefit others. Cheryl is currently an active volunteer in six organizations; she is Chief Volunteer at the Lunenburg Community Consignment, President of the South Shore Genealogical Society, Secretary/Treasurer of the Lunenburg and Area Garden Club, member of the steering committee for the Lunenburg Comprehensive Community Plan, member and gift shop volunteer at the Fishermen's Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and member of the Lunenburg Heritage Society.

Jeff Little

Municipality of the District of Yarmouth

Jeff is the unofficial welcome wagon for new business owners to the community, befriending them and offering a welcome hand. He has been on the Yarmouth Regional Hospital foundation for several years as Chair of the Marketing Committee, organizing the Radiothon which raised more than \$300,000. Jeff is a founding member of 100 Guys Who Care in Yarmouth and continues to participate on their executive committee. He is a member of the Yarmouth Rotary Club for 10 years, where he has assumed many volunteer roles. His dedication to the community's youth has propelled him to be the youth liaison with the Interact Club at YCMHS. He is also engaged with Scouts Canada as a leader, taking many youths to camps and rallies.

Lloyd Publicover

Municipality of the District of Chester

The Blandford & Area Fire Rescue has benefitted from Lloyd's volunteer efforts for 50 years. He is currently the trainer for new volunteers and manages the fire department's Pumpers Lounge. Lloyd can also be found on a regular basis helping at the District #1 Community Centre peeling vegetables, serving food and cleaning up. When he is not at the fire department or the community centre, he lends his time volunteering at St. Barnabas Church, where he cooks 40 pounds of potatoes for the annual turkey dinner and oversees the annual clean-up at the Blandford Cemetery.

Greg Selig*Municipality of the District of Lunenburg*

A retired teacher, Greg has been actively involved in his community since the 1970s. He has contributed to the community and surrounding areas through a great number of initiatives, both as a founder and supporter for various causes. He established a local farmer's market and manages a garden club that addresses local food insecurities by growing vegetables to share with the community. Greg organizes the annual Health and Wellness Expo, meet and greets for newcomers to the community, local canoeing and hiking events, and Earth Day clean-ups.

Raya Stewart*Region of Queens Municipality*

Raya is a student and athlete committed to giving back to her community. As a youth leader, she volunteers with Queens Minor Hockey Association's development program. This past summer, Raya took part in a 'Leaders in Training' program, where she volunteered at numerous community events coordinated by the Municipal Recreation Department. She is also a member of Respect, Empathy and Positivity at Liverpool Regional High School, promoting activities for students. She rounds out her volunteer commitments by helping with local Canada Day festivities, as well as the Run Our Shore running event.

David Walker*Town of Bridgewater*

For 40 years, David has been an integral member of the Bridgewater community – first as a member of Town Council then Mayor. An active member of the church community, and a leader in many non-profit organizations, his municipal roles became a gateway to volunteering with other organizations. He lends his time to the Bridgewater Police Commission, Safe Communities Lunenburg County and the Bridgewater United Church Council. His passion as an educator and athletic coach have helped to guide the growth of many organizations in his community.

Helen Whitehouse*Town of Mahone Bay*

Helen has been on the Executive Board of the Mahone Bay Legion for 16 years. She has held various positions, including Secretary, Secretary

Treasurer and is currently the President. She oversees numerous portfolios including The Poppy Campaign, Bursary Awards and Veteran's Assistance Programs, while at the same time provides help every Sunday to assist with the legion's monthly brunch event. She also commits her time to local veterans, providing meals, transportation and moral support.

Debi Wilson-King*Town of Shelburne*

Debi is an example of compassion in action, demonstrating volunteerism across a broad range of organizations. She volunteers as a driver for Meals on Wheels while juggling volunteer commitments with the Shelburne Yacht Club and St. Thomas Catholic Church Refugee Committee. She is an active board member for both the Little People's Place and the Osprey Arts Centre. Debi also assists with events at the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre and the 100 Women Who Care fundraising effort.



2019 Representative Volunteers

Central Region

David Aalders

Halifax Regional Municipality

David has been volunteering for more than 20 years, serving his community through many groups including United We Win Halifax, Halifax West Ecumenical Food Bank, New Armdale Westside Housing Cooperative, Chebucto West Community Health Board and the Super Nova Multi-Cultural Pot Luck. As a volunteer with the Joint Emergency Management Team for Mainland North, David's focus has been on promoting safety preparedness awareness. Recognizing the large population of newcomers in HRM, he has focused on bridging cultures together and building a JEM team reflective of our diverse community.

Tahmina Dewan

Halifax Regional Municipality

Tahmina is an active volunteer with multiple organizations and community events including the Immigrant Migrant Women Association, Terry Fox Foundation, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Annual Newcomers Welcome BBQ, Share the Spirit of Ramadan Food Drive, The Bluenose Marathon and Northern Lights Lantern Festival. Currently she is president of the Nova Scotia Community College Early Childhood Education Student Council and a member of the Inglis Street Elementary School PTA. Her leadership provides inspiration to her daughters who regularly volunteer with her and encourages others in her community to become involved.

Kayley Dixon

Halifax Regional Municipality

Kayley is a driven advocate for social justice, providing hundreds of volunteer hours annually. As a student of Dartmouth Junior High, she is a member of Student Council, Human Rights Club, Interact Club and International Student Ambassador. She is also a member of the Take Action Society and Stop the Violence where she conducts a variety of activities benefitting local and global communities. Kayley creates her own initiatives, is an advocate for others who may not otherwise have a voice and works hard to provide food security both at home and abroad.

Graham Greene

Halifax Regional Municipality

Graham has dedicated more than 2000 hours of his time to his community. He has volunteered as a club assistant with the MicMac

Amateur Aquatic Club and is a community speaker with the Canadian Seniors Concerned with the Federal Department of Justice. With a strong commitment to preventing crime and disorder in the Dartmouth area, he has also been the backbone of the Burnside Watch Program for almost two decades.

Melda Hodder

Halifax Regional Municipality

In her 40 years of living in Lake Echo, Melda volunteers more than 30 hours a week to bring her positive energy and problem solving strategies to community projects. She has contributed her time to St. David's Church, cooking for church suppers and assisting with the Church's financial direction. When not working on church projects, Melda volunteers with the Lake Echo Lioness Club and is an active member of the Lake Echo Terry Fox Run Committee. In her desire to keep her community informed and involved, she also organizes, edits and publishes a weekly Community Newsletter for Lake Echo and surrounding areas.

Sarah MacDonald-Miles

Halifax Regional Municipality

Sarah is a grade 9 student at Lockview High School who encourages others to get involved to bring about social change. She began volunteering at the age of 4, selling lemonade at the Riverland Campground to buy toys for the playground sandbox after they were washed away in a flood. Today, Sarah has started her own company helping several organizations through her initiatives including #JeansForTeens, #LinksofLove, #ShareTheWarmth, #LocalsHelpingLocals, Halloween Hero Food Drive in support of Feed Nova Scotia and #KindnessIsContagious. Sarah is also a proud member of the RCSCC Magnificent 24 Sea Cadet Corp where she participates in as many volunteer activities as she can.

Jennie MacKenzie

Halifax Regional Municipality

Jennie has contributed countless hours to non-profit community groups and events, providing her ideas and formulating the steps to make them happen. She has volunteered with Chezzetcook Parks & Recreation, Chezzetcook Lion's Club and Tim Horton's Camp Day fundraisers. She

is also known for her passion to teach and inspire the next generation. She has dedicated 52 years to Girl Guides of Canada helping many girls develop confidence and skills to reach their future goals.

Dalyce Mallion

Halifax Regional Municipality

Dalyce has been a dedicated volunteer of the Portland Estates & Hills Residents Association for 20 years, overseeing many projects to meet the needs of the growing community, including a central message board, a playground and park facilities expansion and a performance gazebo for residents at Birches Park. She has also organized the Annual Community Fun Fest, bringing more than 800 families together for music, food and fun. She has volunteered her time with the Dartmouth Whalers Minor Hockey Association for 10 years and spent 2 years on the fundraising committee for the Prince Andrew High Football program.

Terri Roberts

Halifax Regional Municipality

Terri brings perseverance to her volunteer efforts and has dedicated her time to the Nova Scotia Fitness Association to double its membership, secure funding and bring a voice to the national fitness board. Her leadership and initiative has led to the creation of a Shimmy Mob team in Nova Scotia, who raise money and awareness for domestic violence charities. She has also volunteered with organizations including MADD Canada and Girl Guides of Canada and provided her expertise as a Provincial Arts Advisor and an adult education trainer.

Robert Shaw

Halifax Regional Municipality

For more than five decades, Robbie has shown his commitment to his community through civic engagement. His volunteer leadership roles have strengthened Halifax and area education, health, arts and culture, community and faith-based organizations, including IWK Health Centre as a member of the Board of Directors, St. Andrew's United Church, Pier 21 Society, Nova Scotia Community College and the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth. Robert has also provided his time to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia Board of Governors. His understanding of the importance the Gallery plays within the community has helped further the Gallery's vision to become a centrepiece within an arts district in Halifax.



2019 Representative Volunteers

Highland Region

Wendy Bourque

Town of Westville

Wendy has been a part of the Westville Rotary Club for many years - with her at the helm the Club successfully raised funds to install a community splash pad. Wendy was on the initial planning committee for the creation of Acadia Park, now a central gathering spot in the Town of Westville and one of the biggest summer attractions in the county. Aside from her involvement in The Rotary Club, Wendy has coached ringette, is a member of the Westville Homecoming Committee and has organized fundraising efforts for the Pictou County Fuel Fund and the SPCA.

Chelsea Burke

Municipality of the District of Guysborough

Chelsea is the Vice President of the local Community Centre where she runs programs for people of all ages, including exercise classes, Grand Friends Programs and annual community BBQ's. She also plays an integral role to oversee the work required for grant applications, arrange hall bookings and organize the volunteer team who help with cleaning and fundraising. Currently, Chelsea is the Chair of the St. Mary's Academy/Education Centre School Advisory Committee and the Treasurer of the school's PTA. She and her son also volunteer as part of the Roots of Empathy Program for grade one students. Chelsea has also been honored as a Canada 150 Ambassador for the Municipality of the District of Guysborough.

Greg Burrows

Town of New Glasgow

For the past 20 years, Greg has been a local business person supporting recreation, community development and sports teams for young athletes. He has provided coaching for hockey, baseball, swimming and track teams and was the founder and key organizer for the 'Ride the River' event that drew hundreds of people to New Glasgow. He has served as President of the West Side Community Centre, was fundraising chair for the construction of a concrete ice surface and helped develop a "Smart Cities Application" for the town.

Tara Carruthers*Town of Stellarton*

An advocate of sport, Tara Carruthers has been coaching elementary school basketball in Stellarton for the past 10 years, promoting respect, inclusion, team building, fair play and enjoyment of the game. She has coached with the GR Saunders Elementary School Boys Basketball Team, the Pictou County Lightning Basketball Association, the Steve Nash Youth Basketball Program, and was co-ordinator for the Pictou County Elementary Boys Basketball League. Tara is also a volunteer with the Heatherbells Pipes and Drums Youth band. Her efforts include snare drum lessons, chaperoning performances and working in their Snack Shack during the summer.

Jim Crawford*Municipality of Pictou County*

Jim's sense of pride for Pictou County fuels his dedication to ensure seniors and persons with disabilities have a safe place to enjoy the outdoors. He has been a volunteer with the Lansdowne Outdoor Recreational Park (AKA LORDA) for the past 30 years to provide fishing, bocce ball, horseshoes and camping activities. More recently, Jim now oversees the day-to-day operations, six days a week, to ensure park maintenance is complete, fundraising initiatives are ongoing, and summer students are supervised.

Heather Laybolt*Municipality of the District of St. Mary's*

Volunteering has been a part of Heather's life for more than 40 years, her community commitment beginning as a founding member of the St. Mary's District Lion's Club. In recent years, Heather joined the Sherbrooke Village Old Fashioned Christmas Festival Committee to assist in revitalizing the event. The last two years, Heather has chaired the committee, managing 300 volunteers who dedicate 6000 collective volunteer hours to the Festival. Thanks to this effort, the event has won numerous provincial awards and has helped to bring thousands of visitors to Sherbrooke every year.

Ken MacDonald*Town of Trenton*

Ken has volunteered his time over the years to multiple sporting teams, from elementary to high school level, to develop a love for sports in many children in his community. He has coached basketball and softball and managed several rep hockey teams, bringing knowledge of the game in a fun atmosphere for youth. Recently, Ken and his two long-time friends stepped up to the plate to take on management of the Trenton FunFest, in the wake of several retired committee members, to ensure the festival continued to be part of the Trenton community activities.

Gladys MacDougall*Town of Antigonish*

Gladys brings a tremendous amount of support and engagement to her volunteer activities. She is co-founder of the Friendship Corner, providing a gathering place for a cross-section of individuals, including seniors, newcomers, and those with mental illness and physical impairment. She facilitates a Grief Support Group, providing a safe environment for sharing and exploring grief and loss. Gladys is a volunteer member on the Advisory Board for Diaconate Candidates of the Antigonish Diocese. She is a strong ongoing mental health advocate, a certified Patient Rights advisor, and was a Mental Health First Aid Trainer. Gladys continues as an active member and Chair of the Creative Wellness Society.

Mary Jane Paulette*Paqtnkek First Nation*

Mary Jane Paulette has been a dedicated volunteer for more than 25 years, lending a hand to all community events. As an educator, Mary Jane has lent her support to the X Project - a St. FX University student society who offer small group educational assistance and leadership to community youth. She always puts her community first with compassion and patience.

Betty Richards*Town of Pictou*

Betty has lent a hand to the Shiretown Nursing Home in Pictou for the past 31 years to assist both staff and residents. She is an integral volunteer with the Therapeutic Recreation Department with resident

focused programs, including bingo and parties. She is also on-hand to help with special events and resident outings and assists the Home's hairdresser. Betty is always happy to help wherever she can, willingly and without hesitation.

Betty Skinner and Alvina Snow

Town of Mulgrave

Working together to provide opportunities for the entire community, Betty and Alvina are always willing to help. They were the driving force behind the revitalization of the Mulgrave Duck Pond and continue to oversee care of the green space, the ducks and their habitat for the enjoyment and appreciation of the entire community. They volunteer together with their church and are inspirational by providing opportunities for the NH seniors group.

*2019
Representative
Volunteers*

Fundy Region



Shelley Carroll*Town of Amherst*

Shelley balances a busy life as a mom, along with volunteering for several organizations. She lends her time and expertise to Amherst Minor Basketball Association, Amherst Valentines Run and the Community Christmas Dinner. She is also a volunteer with the local schools and provides mentoring to new runners with the Amherst Striders.

Nancy Doane*Municipality of East Hants*

At 81 years old, Nancy has set the standard for volunteering in the Municipality of East Hants. She has volunteered her time with the East Hants Historical Society for the past 16 years, holding positions of president and vice-president various times over. She is currently the co-chair of the Museum in Selma, helping guides during the summer season while working on artifacts and print resources during the winter months. Nancy also gives her time to the Disciple Church playing the organ, is a member of the Board of Managers and plays a large role with the Meals-to-Go program. Nancy was recognized by CTV, receiving their Maritimer of the Week Award for her dedication to her community.

Robert Fulton*Town of Truro*

With a 47-year volunteer career, Robert continues to be an active volunteer, propelled by his desire to see his community thrive and grow. He has held many leadership roles, served on multiple committees, and has contributed to the success of VON. Robert has also served as President to both the Truro Curling Club and the Colchester Association of the Developmentally Disabled. He is currently an active member of the First United Church, Masonic Order, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Royal Order of Scotland and the Philae Shrine Temple.

Richard Haines*Municipality of Colchester County*

As Special Olympics Cobequid Regional Coordinator, Richard has invested thousands of hours over the past 12 years to provide opportunities for more than 140 intellectually challenged athletes. He's excelled at directing coaches and volunteers, ensuring they have all the resources needed to run their programs, while at the same time

mentoring athletes to teach self-confidence alongside sports skills. He DJs dances for the athletes, acts as head chef at the annual BBQ and hosts the province's floor hockey tournaments. Behind the scenes, he advocates for the program with many grant applications.

Kenneth Hickman*Town of Oxford*

Kenneth has accumulated 20 years of volunteer service with his local fire department and now oversees many of the Department's community initiatives, including the operation of the Cumberland County Exhibition Fire Fighters Canteen - the Department's largest annual fundraiser. Ken has completed Level 1 and MFR training and has taken on the responsibility to oversee training for the entire department. He has served on many community boards, such as the Church of the Nazarene to spearhead their weekly Soup Kitchen, including home delivery to those unable to leave their house.

Scott MacGillivray*Village of Bible Hill*

A Physical Education teacher by trade, Scott was inspired by his positive experience with sport coaches as a youth and wanted to pay that experience forward. He has coached youth baseball at every level in Nova Scotia and has also held volunteer coaching positions in hockey and football. He has held several executive positions including coaching coordinator, division coordinator and umpire coordinator with the Bible Hill-Truro Minor Baseball Association. He has reinvigorated the program, increasing registration numbers from less than 200 children in 2013 to just under 500 in 2018. His biggest impact has been in training a new generation of coaches. Many of the volunteers he works with now, he coached himself in the 90's.

Jeff Turple*Town of Stewiacke*

Jeff has been a leader for all softball and hardball programs in Stewiacke for the past four summers. In addition to coaching he has established a program, Stewiacke Attackers Free for All Ball, that provides participation for 100 children to try a new sport at no cost. Jeff has also created the Stewiacke Storm Minor Baseball Association, a hardball team for ages Under 11 and Under 13, and a Co-Ed program providing opportunity for adults to join in on the



2019 Representative Volunteers

Cape Breton Region

Hamilton Carter

Municipality of the County of Victoria

Hamilton has been instrumental in bringing the St. Paul Island Museum & Lighthouse to life in the community of Dingwall - a place that preserves the history of St. Paul Island, its families that lived there and those who were lost forever at sea in shipwrecks surrounding the island. Now in its 10th year, Hamilton has made the museum a regular part of his day and continues to build the museum's reputation, resulting in visitors from all over the world arriving each year.

Laurie Doucette

Membertou First Nation

Laurie has been a volunteer for more than 50 years, sharing her expertise with many committees, such as the Membertou Interagency Committee and the Membertou Governance Committee. She has been involved in nearly every event in the community, taking on various volunteer roles in the Annual Gingerbread House Event, Cape Breton Fiddlers Run, Native Dart Tournaments, Membertou's Annual Pow Wows, and the National Aboriginal Women's Summit, among others. She selflessly jumps in to lend a hand, shows the ropes to new volunteers, and takes the lead on multiple new and existing projects. In her years of giving back, she has inspired many people to follow in her footsteps.

Cynthia Francis

Potlotek First Nation

Potlotek First Nation is at the heart of Cindy's volunteer efforts. She works diligently to fundraise for several community events including Canada Day fireworks and Halloween festivities. She is dedicated to assisting the community's at-risk youth and spear-heads many social activities including Halloween activities, Valentine's dances and an annual Christmas party.

Amanda Googoo

Wagmatcook First Nation

Known as the community's go-to person, Amanda has taken the lead for several years to plan and oversee the community's two-week March Break activities. This year she also managed the Back to School Bag Program, ensuring every child had a school bag filled with supplies for

the coming year. She shares her time for the annual Christmas gathering, the Elders' Mawiomí, and acts as a chaperone for the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games.

Paul Kehoe,

Town of Port Hawkesbury

Paul has been a member of the Port Hawkesbury Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years, with the past 3 years as Lieutenant of Rescue. He has participated in community events supported by the department, including the Town of Port Hawkesbury Christmas Parade, Outdoor Movie and the RCMP Children's Bike Rodeo. He is a member of the Strait Area Trails Association, the EMO Advisory Committee and the Destination Reeves Street First Responders Committee. He has also assisted with training the Evergreen Seniors Club on AED's. Paul has had a great impact on youth hockey. He previously coached minor hockey for the Strait Richmond Minor Hockey Association and for the past two years has coached a free, weekly drop-in recreational program that has introduced many local youths to the sport.

Rodney Martin

We'koqma'q First Nation

Rodney is motivated to inspire others as part of his volunteer efforts. As an Addiction Services Support Worker, Rodney's day extends well beyond his work role to bring him out in the community to help others. He presently volunteers with Tunes and Talk, the community garden, ski/snowboard programs, youth bowling trips and movie trips. His community involvement provides opportunity for him to set a good example of citizenship for the people he helps, in the hope they will pay it forward when they can.

Kim Rideout

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

A volunteer for 30 years, Kim focuses on giving back to the town she grew up in. From community groups to Municipal departments, her community impact is well known. Kim's volunteer efforts include Festival Coordinator and Director for the Johnny Miles Festival in Sydney Mines and organizer of the Giving Back to Fort Mac Fundraiser. She assists with seniors' luncheons and expos, Easter events, and the Christmas parade, while also giving time to the Sydney Mines Community Policing office.

She is the volunteer itinerary manager for Miss NS, NB and PEI and Miss Teen NS, NB and PEI International, and with Miss Maritime and Miss Teen Maritime International.

Helen Rollock

Municipality of the County of Inverness

An experienced Early Childhood Educator, Helen guided two groups of busy parents to navigate the process of establishing much-needed daycare centres in their community. Her dedication and expertise ensured applications and policies adhered to all regulations and requirements, resulting in the successful development of two childcare centres. In 2011, she established the Whycocomagh Child Development Centre, followed by the Bayview Child Development Centre in Port Hood, which will open its doors in 2019.

Elaine Sampson

Municipality of the County of Richmond

Elaine began sharing her skillset with her community in 1995, after experiencing a true sense of pride when giving back. Elaine's years of volunteerism, combined with her leadership skills, have had a tremendous impact on the success of the L'Ardoise Acadian Festival – a lively five-day festival celebrating the pioneers of the area and the legacy of their rich culture. Elaine's passion for the event has helped to build strong community engagement for the event and beyond.



2019 Family Volunteer Award

The Little Family Jeff, Erika, Emma, Alex

The Little Family has been living in Yarmouth for the past 11 years; however, collectively have contributed more than 40 years of volunteer service to their community. When first arriving in Yarmouth in 2008, they took to volunteering as a way to meet new people. In his role as a board member of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation, Jeff created the annual WE CARE Radiothon, a fundraising initiative that he chairs and hosts. Erika, Emma and Alex also volunteer their time for this community event each year. To date, \$300,000 has been raised to purchase much needed hospital equipment. Jeff also co-founded and chairs the 100 Guys That Share Yarmouth County, which has collectively donated more than \$130,000 to local charities.

As parents, Erika and Jeff use volunteering to not only give back to their community but also to set an example for their children, Emma and Alex, promoting leadership and social responsibility. Through vision and leadership, daughter Emma turned her small High School Rotary Interact Club into the largest in Atlantic Canada. Alex, with help and inspiration from Emma and their mother Erika, then worked to create a new Rotary Interact Club at the Junior High level, where Alex leads the Club as President.

In addition to her commitment to Rotary and the Interact Club, Erika has provided her time to Meals on Wheels, the Chamber of Commerce, Community 100 Meals Program and School Advisory Councils for the past 11 years. The entire family has also devoted volunteer time to Scouts Canada and Girl Guides of Canada. When asked why they volunteer as a family, the Littles say giving back not only benefits the community but also provides them opportunity to connect with each other and have fun!

An abstract, colorful geometric pattern composed of various shapes like triangles, circles, and polygons in shades of red, teal, yellow, orange, pink, and blue, arranged in a dynamic, overlapping fashion.

2019 Youth Volunteer Award

Maria Kirby-Breen

Maria's volunteer activities started at an early age – in Grade 6, she raised over \$600 for the Chester Food Bank, through plant sales and bottle collections. She also started volunteering at the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation. In Grade 7, she was on the organizing committee for a volleyball tournament that raised more than \$3,000 for Wadeng Wings of Hope. Now at just 17 years old, her love of people, wildlife and the environment are demonstrated through her active and diverse volunteer engagements.

Maria has a special talent for connecting with people from all age groups. She has participated in events for Grandmothers to Grandmothers (a Stephen Lewis Foundation), to raise money for grandmothers in Africa caring for their grandchildren. She volunteers with the Youth Acting Program at the Chester Playhouse, offering support and mentoring younger children. She has also served on the board of the Friends of Nature Conservation Society as the Membership and Youth Director. She is one of the founders of her school's Environment Committee advocating for the reduction of plastic water bottles. She was a recent co-presenter at the Municipal Council for an initiative that resulted in a grant to install refillable water stations at Forest Heights Community School.

Despite the discomfort that comes with the two surgeries she's had after being born with clubbed feet, Maria persevered to represent Chester Middle School on several sporting team, including softball and volleyball. It was in this team setting where Maria earned the important lesson that resilience, courage and determination come from within, to overcome seemingly impossible odds.

