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MAYOR'S
**COMMUNITY
SAFETY AWARDS**





Mac's Convenience Stores are honoured to sponsor Thunder Bay's Mayor's Community Safety Awards.

At Mac's, we recognize the importance community engagement plays in the prevention of crime and the positive impact it can have on the community.

***“Working Together For
A Safer Community”***



On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, and the citizens of Thunder Bay, I am so proud to present the 2016 Mayor's Community Safety Awards.

This is the sixth year we have given out these important awards.

In 2010, City Council confirmed a decision to invest in safety and crime prevention by hiring a Coordinator and creating a community-based Thunder Bay Crime Prevention Council. I think that was a fantastic decision, and it gives me great pleasure to see the many successes we have had.

Crime prevention requires a united community, one built on partnerships and respect. This year's recipients are setting an example through their outstanding efforts to make our community safer and more welcoming for everyone, and they are inspiring others.

I'm proud of the work we are doing, and even prouder to share our success with this year's recipients. Thank you, and congratulations.

You are truly making a difference.

Keith P. Hobbs, Mayor



The Mayor's Community Safety Awards were created as a way to demonstrate that community safety initiatives are happening in Thunder Bay, and are making a difference.

The awards recognize and celebrate individuals and organizations that have contributed to make Thunder Bay a safer place to live, work and play.

As the Crime Prevention Council moves forward with its work to build a safe, inclusive and respectful Thunder Bay, it is encouraging to see such tremendous efforts in the community.

Congratulations to this year's awards recipients. Your work is making an important contribution to our city. Thank you to to this year's sponsors. This event would not be possible without your generous support.

These awards would also not be possible without the support and leadership from Mayor Keith Hobbs and Thunder Bay City Council. Together, we can all achieve great results for our City, and make it a safer place for all.

Jeff Upton, Chair – Crime Prevention Council

PROTECTING YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

STARTS WITH YOU



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THUNDER BAY
CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We:

- Believe effective action is based on knowledge, research and experience.
- Prevent crime through addressing its root causes.
- Build on the strengths and capacities of our communities.
- Collaborate with our communities on solutions and actions.
- Include a diversity of voices.
- Value respect and compassion in our attitudes and actions.
- Believe everyone has responsibility for making the city safe and welcoming.

For more information,
visit thunderbay.ca/crimeprevention

COMMUNITY HERO

MICHAEL QUIBELL



Michael Quibell is a local food producer, cook and volunteer who is committed to the community through his work with local organizations that support homeless and other vulnerable populations.

Through his work with the RFDA, Shelter House, Dew Drop Inn and Grace Place, Michael understands the importance of increasing food security and providing basic needs to all people in our community with dignity and respect.

Michael's passion to help was ignited six years ago when he discovered the Street Ministry of Grace Place. He used his position as a vendor at the Thunder Bay Country Market to make the needs of the less fortunate known to the customers there, and has continued to volunteer his time weekly and on a project by project basis.

As a former Shelter House Kitchen Co-ordinator, he continues to act as a liaison between the RFDA and the shelters and soup kitchens, and makes himself available to redistribute donations between the various organizations, always acting as an unpaid volunteer.

He was also instrumental in the Grow-a-Row Project by compiling a wish/need list of the various soup kitchens in Thunder Bay for weekly publication in The Chronicle Journal. Michael's friends and co-workers describe him as a profoundly compassionate, kind-hearted and generous individual who values and respects the humanity in each person he encounters.



YOUNG LEADER AWARD

CHANTAL PETIT



Chantal Petit quickly stood out as a young person who was committed to making Thunder Bay a safer place for everyone.

She graduated from Confederation College's Police Foundations Program in the spring of 2015, and has been a member of the Thunder Bay Police Service Zone Watch Program since October 2015. She was a leader in developing a road safety campaign that focused on bringing awareness to the dangers of texting and driving.

Chantal jumped at the chance to be part of the Crime Prevention Council as a Youth Representative. She has eagerly taken on the responsibility of chairing the Public Education Working Group, and regularly attends community safety events to support and engage the community in the task of preventing crime.

Chantal also volunteers with Victims Services, and this past summer, worked with the OPP as their Summer Marine Student. She is a member of the Confederation College Police Foundations Advisory Committee and helps to bring information about Zone Watch and the Crime Prevention Council to other youth in the community who are exploring a possible career in crime prevention and community safety.

Chantal is a dynamic, outgoing young leader who has demonstrated her willingness to step up and provide support wherever possible. She has given countless hours of her time to support various community safety initiatives and seeks out opportunities to infuse her energy and vision to help make Thunder Bay safer.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PROJECT

SENIOR FRAUD STOPPERS



Senior Fraud Stoppers is a group of dedicated retirees who volunteer their time to teach seniors and others in the community how to keep seniors safe from financial abuse.

The group includes Pauline Vranesich, Maria Bilyk, and Gloria McKay, three seniors who have been working together for over 12 years.

As members of the Community Elder Abuse Prevention Committee, the group has been very effective at raising awareness about elder abuse in the region.

They have presented to thousands, including seniors groups, churches, school children, residents in retirement homes, and seniors living in apartments in the city. Lee Stones, past-Chair of the Community Elder Abuse Prevention

Committee, continues to provide support. The group has also worked with the Crimes Against Seniors Unit with the Thunder Bay Police Service, and has participated in health fairs, conferences and the Seniors Rock Walk for many years. They also work with the 15+ agencies who sit on the Community Elder Abuse Committee.

Elder abuse is an under-reported issue, with over 80% of seniors abused by their families or by people they assume they can trust. However, only 10% of seniors ever report. When awareness and support is offered by their own peers, seniors feel they can be more open; they sense the Senior Fraud Stoppers' compassion and trust their advice.



OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PROJECT

STAND UP! AGAINST RACISM



Stand Up! Against Racism is an annual event that brings the community together to stand up against racism, while encouraging unity and respect between people of all nations.

When a racially motivated Facebook page appeared in 2015 featuring indigenous people and those less fortunate, Ashley Nurmela could not sit idly by. A student in the Native Child and Family Services Program at Confederation College at the time, she presented the idea of a “We Are One” campaign to her fellow students. The students coordinated the first Stand Up! Against Racism event, a silent protest to bring the community together to stand up against racism. More than 300 people attended and the action raised significant awareness for the cause by earning much media attention.

In 2016, a fundraising element was added through the sale of branded items in order to establish a student bursary at Confederation College. A partnership with Lakehead University was also developed to bring the event to their campus.

The Stand Up! Against Racism initiative has helped raise awareness about the issue of racism and has challenged the community’s way of thinking about Indigenous peoples. The event helped to create a safe, supportive and inclusive campus for Confederation College and welcomed the entire community to participate.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PROJECT

THUNDER BAY SWIMMING HOLES



For the past four years, Juan Baztarrica has raised awareness among in the community about the safety issue of litter and broken glass at some of Thunder Bay's most cherished and summertime swimming holes.

He formed the Thunder Bay Swimming Holes group, and has made a commitment to restore these areas into places of natural beauty for everyone to safely enjoy, and to inspire others to do the same.

Juan organized the first annual swimming hole cleanup in June 2014 at the popular Soldier's Hole swimming area along the Current River near Trowbridge Falls. Approximately 20 citizens scoured the area to collect glass, litter and larger items.

The second annual clean-up was held a year later at the more accessible P&G swimming area along the Current River.

The group's clean-up efforts have received a lot of media attention, and have inspired local residents to take action to clean up the naturally beautiful areas, and to help change the mentality of individuals who leave litter behind.

As an active member in the community, Juan's ultimate goal is to restore pride in these places and to convince people to keep them clean.

The next clean-up is in the planning process for 2017.



Proud to support the



**Congratulations to
all the nominees!**

Union Gas is proud of our commitment to the safety of the communities we serve. Together, we're helping to make a positive difference.



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THUNDER BAY HYDRO

Proud to sponsor the Mayor's Community Safety Awards for 2016.

A focus on safety is vital to the lives of our workers and our customers. We appreciate those in our community who are working towards making Thunder Bay a safer city.

