

2013 Good Citizen Award Recipients

Linda Adamson

Linda Adamson became President of the Board of Directors of the Thunder Bay Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society in 2008. Since that time, she has stabilized the board, recruited and trained four new board members, developed policy, held strategic planning sessions and provided effective communication between staff and the board. Linda has been successful in writing many grants that have provided the Chapter with revenue to respond to patient service requests, to conduct educational workshops and to implement new programs to assist people with MS. Linda has secured funding (\$81,000) to hire interns to help with office administration and fund raising. Linda willingly acts as spokesperson for the local MS Society has been interviewed by all local media. Linda was the keynote speaker at the Northwestern Ontario Physiotherapy Association's AGM, and has made presentations to most of the clubs in town. Linda is worthy of this award.



Rashmi Agarwal

Rashmi Agarwal has volunteered at Pioneer Ridge Long Term Care home for the past nine years. She volunteers three days per week to assist in the Hair Salon; her duties include transporting residents for their appointments. When the salon is closed, Rashmi can be found assisting the Recreation staff with programmes for the residents. She starts her day with a smile, an encouraging word and is always willing to listen to the residents. She is a wonderful volunteer who has patience, understanding, caring and a positive attitude. Rashmi is well respected by staff and families and is a shining example for the Good Citizen Award.



Joe Benincasa

Joe Benincasa has been involved with Inter-Lucania Soccer Club for over 40 years and was a founder of the club. During those years, over 10,000 children, 3-15 years of age have benefitted from the soccer programme. Joe has coached, refereed and sat on the executive board dedicating many hours of his time. He is passionate about the "beautiful game" and is happy to see young children playing soccer and having fun.

Michael Bergquist

Since the inception of Wheelchair Curling in Thunder Bay, Michael has been involved in the ongoing growth of this sport. He strives to make all members of the Wheelchair Curling organization feel like they are part of the extended family. He has been instrumental in ensuring inclusion for those with physical disabilities in the sport of curling. This resulted in the formation of the Recreational League and, thanks to Michael, the startup of a Competitive League. He is a certified coach of one of the teams, which has travelled to both Regional and National competitions representing Thunder Bay. With Michael's encouragement, every Sunday afternoon friends and family come together to participate in a team sport, cheer the curlers on and join in the fun. He has not missed a Sunday in six years! Michael dedicates his own time to study and learn more about the sport so he can help improve the curlers' experience. Wheelchair curling owes a debt of gratitude to Michael for all he has contributed to the sport in Thunder Bay.



Lois Bosinger

Lois Bosinger has been a hard working dedicated volunteer at the Thunder Bay 55+ Centre for the past 12 years. She organizes and coordinates whist, one of the longest running card games at the Centre and coordinates, collects fees and is always welcoming new participants to the game. Lois has also dedicated her time at the information desk, greeting participants, providing tours and answering questions about the facility and programmes. She spends many hours at the library cataloguing books and helping with the annual book sale. Lois' dedication is noteworthy.



Donna Brown

Donna Brown has been a member and an active volunteer of the Volunteer Association to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre since 2001. In 2008, she was presented with a Life Membership to the Volunteer Association and in 2012 she was recognized as a Life Member in the Hospital Auxiliary Association of Ontario for her dedication and service. She is the secretary and on the Board of Directors of the Volunteer Association. Donna also provides hospital volunteer service: she is a valuable member of the Information Desk group, a part of the Accessibility Team and is a Patient Family Advisor. She performs her duties in a very professional manner. Donna assists in fundraising activities and she has been involved in running raffles, events and other fundraising activities to support the Hospital. Donna's passion for service to others is an example to all. Donna's service is exemplary.



Janet Bryan

Janet Bryan has volunteered at the West Thunder Community Centre for the past 10 years. She helps with many programmes run by the Centre. These include the organization of the monthly 50 Plus dances and organizing card games such as cribbage and euchre. Janet is involved with numerous Centre fund raisers such as selling tickets for craft sales and 50/50 tickets. Janet volunteers with a smile and can always be called upon to help out whenever requested. Janet's work is appreciated and worthy of recognition.

Anne Carr

Anne Carr has been a dedicated hospice palliative care volunteer with Hospice Northwest (HNW) for eight years. Anne came to HNW while working as a nurse and then pursued her calling as a chaplain. Her skills make her an ideal volunteer as she is comfortable in a medical and spiritual environment. Anne has offered the gift of companionship to her palliative clients and an empathetic ear to many bereaved individuals struggling with grief after losing a loved one. She also assists with the screening of potential hospice care volunteers wishing to join the agency. Anne recognizes in others the unique emotional and spiritual qualities one needs to serve those approaching the end of their lives.



Kevin Chony

In 1977, the Zorya Ukrainian Dance Association was formed. During its formative years, Kevin served on the Executive as a Public Relations Director and later as the Fundraising Director. Leadership and dedication were evident as he held Director positions and continued teaching as both a Head and Assistant Instructor. Kevin Chony has been actively involved in fund raising and does not hesitate to do many jobs such as planning, auditing financial records, cleaning the hall and assisting Directors with projects as needed. As an instructor and dancer, from September until May, Kevin is at the studio three days a week, one to two hours each day. Kevin's dance expertise has been displayed in such productions as the Nutcracker, Oklahoma, Fiddler on the Roof and many other events at the Community Auditorium. Kevin continues to improve and enrich our community as a volunteer. His dedication and generous contribution of time and leadership provides an excellent role model for young parents. Kevin is a worthy recipient of the Good Citizen Award.



Marisa Ciddio

The strength of any initiative lies in its team of volunteers. Each person makes their own contribution to our community. Marisa Ciddio has supported electoral campaigns by providing transportation for those who might otherwise not be able to cast a vote, made telephone calls and assisted with the tasks at the campaign headquarters. For several years, and with the support of a dedicated team of CNIB volunteers, Marisa helped make a difference in the lives of those who are blind or partially sighted by helping to raise much needed funds and increasing awareness of CNIB. Marisa's dedication and commitment to the planning and execution of the "Old Bags", fundraising luncheon attests to her professionalism, passion and drive.



Ivan & Judy Cocks

Ivan and Judy Cocks have been devoted volunteers for the past 16 years. In 2002 they began volunteering at St. Martin School and in 2004 at St. Bernard School. Their fund raising efforts provided gym equipment, giving opportunities previously not available for students. They also gave their time four mornings a week serving breakfasts to children. Their actions affected the lives of many young children over the years. In 2004, they joined Helping Hands Auxiliary to Pioneer Ridge and are still very active members. They have taken on leadership roles within the Auxiliary and work tirelessly towards the goal of improving the quality of life of the residents. As a husband and wife team, they are most deserving of this award as their volunteer efforts have been devoted to the young and elderly in Thunder Bay.



Evelyn DiCarlo



Evelyn DiCarlo has been an outstanding St. Joseph's Care Group Volunteer at Hogarth Riverview Manor (HRM) for five years, helping in many areas at this long term care home to 96 residents. She has been a Hospice Northwest Volunteer for two years, providing end-of-life care to HRM residents and families. Every Tuesday she assists the hairdresser at HRM with hairdressing duties for a full day. She also makes herself available to the Life Enrichment staff - volunteering with many recreation programmes and special events. She is committed to assisting with the Horticultural Therapy Program, offered monthly during the winter and weekly during spring and summer, tending to the therapeutic garden and assisting residents to enjoy the outdoors. Every Friday, Evelyn assists with the weekly Roman Catholic Mass in the Chapel at HRM and with Spiritual Care Memorial services at HRM for residents who have passed away. She is a member of the Volunteer Service Advisory Committee to give input and feedback on services provided by volunteers across all Care Group sites ensuring that volunteers are welcomed and treated as members of the team. For many years Evelyn has been an active volunteer at St. Agnes Church.

She is enthusiastic and energetic and exemplifies the Care Group's value of care, compassion and commitment. Evelyn's volunteerism is worthy of recognition.

Mae Friday

Mae Friday has been volunteering with the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation from 1993 to the present. Before that she was a dedicated volunteer to the McKellar Hospital Foundation. She has spent countless hours selling raffle tickets to raise funds for the Health Sciences Foundation that has resulted in advances like the new Health Sciences Centre facility, angioplasty services, expanding cancer services and improvements to many other areas of care. From 2007 to present she has been volunteering with the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. As a TBRHSC volunteer she: assisted a group of volunteers for several years to attach a newsletter to over 2,000 paystubs distributed throughout the Centre; as a former nurse from McKellar Hospital and an active alumni member, shares photos and stories, helping prepare displays for nursing weeks and other celebrations and acts as a liaison for families of patients in surgical day care. The comfort and compassion she is able to offer these families is an essential part of making Patient and Family Centered care possible at the Health Sciences Centre. Improving health care is a passion for Mae, which she shares freely with anyone visiting her post at the TBRHSC or the Foundation. Mae is richly deserving of this award.



Joyce Greene

From 1994 to 1997, Joyce Greene was instrumental in the formation of the Helping Hands Auxiliary to Pioneer Ridge Home for the Aged, raising funds with garage sales, working at a charitable Casino and obtaining a license to assist with fundraising for the facility. From 2005 to 2011 she has worked diligently for the Auxiliary as secretary and volunteering with the residents. Joyce has just completed the revision of the Helping Hands Auxiliary Constitution and By-Laws. She is actively involved with hospital volunteers in the Thunder Bay Superior North Region, in her capacity as Region Chair for the Hospital Auxiliaries Association of Ontario Superior North.



Steve Hakala

In 1998, Steve Hakala joined the Chaban Ukrainian Dance Group as a dancer/performer. In 2002 he joined the Chaban Executive as a Member-at-Large and quickly became known to dancers and families as one of the "behind-the-scenes" people. He will build all types of props and is adept at fixing any and all items. Steve helps with set-ups, Folklore booth, costumes and transporting of props. His most impressive prop and work-of-art is Chaban's life size Pysanka (Ukrainian Easter Egg). As a teacher assistant Steve shows leadership, patience,



skill and kindness to the youth dancers he is mentoring as well as the adult dancers in Ukercize where he is an assistant. Steve is a talented and dedicated member of Chaban. Steve has assisted as a chaperone during Chaban's travels to such places as Disney World and Ukraine and is capable of assuming the role of a responsible leader. He embodies the spirit of a team player and helps to keep the wheels of Chaban turning.

James Hupka

James Hupka has been a volunteer for over 21 years in the south core of Thunder Bay. He was instrumental in new advances in the community, such as the Eye on the Street Camera program, the Fort William Street Festival and the Christmas Decorations in Paterson Park. He has been chairman of the 160-member Business Improvement Area. He has spearheaded projects for a cleaner neighbourhood, decorating and planting flowers and is committed and dedicated to the growth and betterment of our community.



Ingrid Lingman

Ingrid Lingman has been President, past President and Secretary of Autism Ontario, Thunder Bay Chapter for four years; Serving as president from 2006 - 2010. From 2007 to the present, she has been a volunteer in Autism Ontario Social Learning Opportunities which include Annual Children's Christmas Party, Lakehead Express Soccer Lesson, Confederation College Cooking classes, Complex Family fitness, Thunder Bay Art Gallery Workshops among others. Once funding is approved she coordinates, promotes and manages the events. Since 2007 to present, she has been the Autism Ontario Website editor and camp Coordinator for Autism family attendance at HAGI Wilderness Discovery camp at Lake Shebandowan. She also represents Autism Ontario as a Committee Member of the Parade of Lights, organizing, scheduling and promoting the event. In 2012, Ingrid was the Coordinator for the Autism Ontario Walk for Autism Awareness, and volunteers for the Masonic Child Identification Program. Since 2012, Ingrid has been a volunteer with the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre Patient Family Advisory Committee. Her dedication and commitment is worthy of recognition.



Stacey Livitski

Stacey Livitski has been a volunteer with the Canadian Diabetes Association Northwestern Ontario since 2007. She was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes at the age of seven years. Stacey has a positive attitude, shares her story willingly and goes out of her way to help others. As a Learning Series and Display Volunteer, Stacey helps to educate people with or at-risk-of Diabetes about the causes and complications of Diabetes as well as what can be done to help prevent and how to manage the condition through healthy lifestyle changes. As an advocacy



Volunteer Stacey assisted in the successful campaign to have the Province fund Insulin Pumps for children and adults with Type 1 Diabetes. Stacey has participated in Diabetes Day at Queen's Park and in Diabetes Focus Groups to improve programs and services for people with Diabetes across Canada. She participated in a multimedia campaign featuring her volunteerism with the Canadian Diabetes Association and how it affected her life in a positive way. In 2012 Stacey was the recipient of the Canadian Diabetes Association NWO Inspiration Award. Stacey works hard to bring diabetes awareness to the people of Thunder Bay and surrounding area. She is a worthy recipient of this award.

Janet Morgan

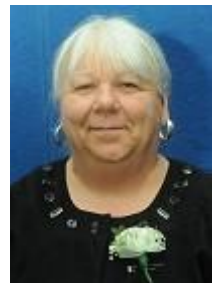
Janet Morgan has been a longstanding dedicated and valuable volunteer for the Kidney Foundation for over eight years. She is an outspoken advocate for those living with Kidney Disease in our community. She volunteers her time, not only as the Board President for eight years but on many sub-committees and on the Provincial Board as delegate for NOW as well. Janet is also a member of the Provincial Steering Committee and recently led a talk on living kidney transplantation. Janet believes all people living with kidney disease deserve a better quality of life and she works hard to ensure they do. She is a worthy recipient of this award.



Bea Petruk

Many dancers have benefited from the work of the Thunder Bay Society of Ballet and Dance. Countless scholarships, travel grants, workshop opportunities and performance opportunities have been developed through the Society. Bea Petruk was a major reason these opportunities exist in Thunder Bay today. As Vice-President and President of the Ballet Society, Bea was responsible for organizing meetings, fundraisers such as bingos, workshops, Christmas and Fantasy Shows, Bea was the representative between the Ballet Society, Festival Director and the Dance Community.

As Dance Liaison for the Lakehead Music Festival, Bea worked hard representing all parties. Any issues that arose, Bea, as well as the Festival Director, worked to resolve the situation as fairly as possible. Throughout the entire Music Festival, Bea dedicated countless hours to its success. As President of the Dawson Court Ladies Auxiliary, Bea is responsible for running their Tuck Shop, organizing fundraisers and organizing special events for the seniors. Bea's volunteer work is greatly appreciated.



Darlene Pyne

Darlene Pyne is involved in many aspects of volunteer work at the Health Sciences Centre. She serves the patients directly through her Rehab Transport volunteering. This service allows the volunteer to provide a friendly visit with the patient on the way back to the patient room after a physio appointment. Darlene has a friendly and outgoing personality that is well suited to helping others. In her role as a Service Leader with the Jewellery Gallery, Darlene leads a group of women who sell jewellery outside of the Gift Shop on a weekly basis. The profits from sales going to support the purchase of equipment used for patient care. Darlene does an excellent job in scheduling, training and ensuring the volunteers are well taken care of. Darlene has been an active board member of the Volunteer Association since June of 2010 and has taken on many fundraising projects. Over the five years of her volunteer service, she has organized many events for the Volunteer Association such as the Spaghetti Supper, Sweet Chocolate Thursday Bake Sales, Strawberry Socials and the fun and popular Two-Bit Auction. Through her dedication and passion for service, Darlene has made a difference for patients, visitors, and volunteers at the Health Sciences Centre.



Mary Ellen Ripley

Mary Ellen has been an active volunteer in Nordic Skiing and cycling for well over a decade. In the past five years, her contributions as race secretary for national and provincial events have contributed to their success, making Thunder Bay a credible and desired event location. Mary Ellen is credited with introducing many young skiers to the sport through the Jack Rabbit Program which she led for many years. Mary Ellen is, by nature, a positive, effective leader in the planning phase of events and a capable problem solver during events. As a team builder, she had helped many reach their full potential as volunteers and participants.



Lillian Rupnik

Lillian Rupnik has been volunteering at St. Joseph's Heritage for over seven years assisting the Spiritual Care staff and clergy with the daily chapel services. Lillian was a regular attendee at the services as a community member and quickly realized the need for volunteer assistance. Each day she walks from her home, not concerned with the weather, and helps to set up in the chapels, organizes and assists residents and ensures services run smoothly in a trusting environment. Lillian is caring, compassionate and very committed to service. Lillian is also actively involved with her church community at Corpus Christi Church. She is a member of the Catholic Women's League and assists at funerals and many church functions and events. Residents have come to know and appreciate the gift of time Lillian so easily offers. Her commitment to services is exceptional.



Alice Vanderwees

In 1987, Alice Vanderwees' sister gathered friends and family together to form the original Christian Reformed Church volunteer group for the Dew Drop Inn Soup Kitchen. The group was made up of members of the three local Christian Reformed Churches. It was not too many years after that Alice also joined the group. Alice took the initiative and encouraged the Vanderwees company to donate eggs on a regular basis for use at the Dew Drop Inn. This has turned into a tradition for the Christian Reformed Volunteer Group as well as for the men and women who frequent the Dew Drop Inn. Christian Reformed Church 'Volunteer Day' at the Dew Drop Inn means 'fried egg bunwiches' to go along with the rest of their meal...something that the over 200 daily clients really look forward to. It is thanks to Alice Vanderwees that this is possible. From her first day as a volunteer over 13 years ago at the Dew Drop Inn, Alice has been a blessing to the men and women who eat there, to the other volunteers and to the Director and Board. She accepts people as they are...without judgment. She has a gentle and accepting spirit that touches all who come into contact with her. Alice's kind demeanor is a reminder that at the Dew Drop Inn people are not marginalized... they are simply neighbours... sharing with neighbours.



Margaret Velichka

Margaret Velichka has volunteered with Therapeutic Riding for over 10 years, starting as a side walker. She is currently sitting on the Board of Directors as recording secretary. Her career with Thunder Bay Therapeutic Riding Association (TBTRA) has covered every aspect of need. Margaret assists riders prior to their riding, (she is affectionately known as "Helmet Lady") provides meals during haying, assists with fundraising, pancake breakfasts and auctions, helping anyway she can. All of the above activities have a direct impact on riders, parents, co-volunteers and others involved in therapeutic riding. Her length of service is an indication of her dedication to the programme. People like Margaret are the backbone of volunteer fellowship.



Pam Ward

Pam Ward has been a volunteer of the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital for the past eight years as a St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Handler with her dog, Holly. Pam is also a volunteer with SJA's Therapy Dog certification process. She assists the Leisure/Life Skills instructors of Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital with special events like the Christmas and Garden parties, activities she does without Holly. Pam and Holly are involved in a pilot project with Sherbrooke Public School visiting the Grade 1 class every second week. The children look forward to their visits. Pam also volunteers for the Thunder Bay Police Pipe Band performances regularly. Pam says she volunteers because she wants to "give back to the community."



Joanne Wehstedt

Joanne Wehrstedt has been a loyal volunteer at Grandview Lodge since 2001. She has a kind, compassionate manner and serves the residents by making sure all their needs are met. She is always willing to help out in the Life Enrichment department with events such as the monthly birthday party, barbecues, games, social events, outings and activities. Her assistance with the residents at weekly mass is much appreciated. She can always be called upon to assist with extra events and is a willing, cheerful volunteer. She has developed friendships with families, staff and residents of the Home and is appreciated for putting a smile on the faces of the residents.



Fort William Male Choir

From its inception, the mandate of the Fort William Male Choir is "To promote interest in male chorus singing and in general to foster interest in the Lakehead Musical Culture." The 2012-2013 season celebrates the 85th Anniversary of the FWMC. The first "Prelude to Christmas" concert was held in 1930 in City Hall and is on-going to this date. For many years the choir had a Christmas and a Spring concert and a Sing-a-long Dinner. This dinner serves as a wonderful public relations activity for the choir. Since 1946 the choir has sung in all senior residences at Christmas and has provided entertainment for many charitable organizations through the years. The choir has travelled to many parts of Northwestern Ontario to perform. International travel for competitions and performances has provided many opportunities for the choir to be a musical ambassador for Thunder Bay and Canada. Over the years, the FWMC has varied in size, and currently has about 35 active members. There are four active members who have celebrated 50+ years with the FWMC. Since 1978 Kendall House has been the Conductor. His talent and expertise lead the choir to a high level of performance. Diane Crocker, the only female member, has been the accompanist for 53 years. The Fort William Male Choir is well deserving of this award.



Ladies Auxiliary of Dawson Court

The Ladies Auxiliary of Dawson Court has been in existence since Dawson Court first opened in 1957. The Auxiliary mandate is to provide the extras for the Residents and over the years they have contributed thousands of dollars from raffles, yard sales and 50/50 draws, making Dawson a true home for their Residents. Some workers have served on the Auxiliary 25 and 30 years respectively.

Most of the members have committed at least 10 years to the Auxiliary. The group of twelve members meets monthly and works with the Life Enrichment Department to make the lives of the Residents memorable. This group brings the community into Dawson Court through Volunteerism. The Ladies Auxiliary runs the Tuck Shop, holds a monthly bingo, Resident Christmas tea and



provides a gift from Santa to all the Residents. They also make trays of food for Memorial Services at the home. The Auxiliary help to sponsor and cook for outings to the HAGI camp. This group purchased equipment, furniture and personal items for the Residents. This group has attracted new members and has found new ways of fundraising. The Auxiliary of Dawson Court is well deserving of this award.

Oliver Road Recreation Association

Oliver Road Community Centre is celebrating 65 years of community service and community building. A group of forerunners in the field of community recreation met in 1947 to form a recreation association in the Oliver Road area of Port Arthur. The Oliver Road Recreation Association was the first community centre established by by-law in the City of Port Arthur. In October, 1948, a building (a 60-foot section of a World War II army hut in Current River Park) was obtained from the city and stands on the corner of Oliver Road and Enniskillen Avenue known as Enniskillen Park. A Board of Management was appointed to oversee the centre's operation. In 1958, the grounds were leveled and improved with the financing totally underwritten by the organization. In 1972, two double tennis courts were constructed on the property due to high user demand. In 1978, it was decided the old building would be demolished and a new one constructed. The official sod-turning ceremony was in October 1978 and the new Oliver Road Community Centre opened its doors September 1979. The center continues to offer varied programming for people of all ages, special events and rental space for catering, meetings, socials, workshops, etc. Projects such as an additional parking lot, new playground equipment and air conditioning were completed. People have come to appreciate the warmth of the place due in great part to its caring volunteers. In all of its 65 years of operation, from its humble beginnings to present, the goals have remained constant - to promote, develop and further the recreational, educational, citizenship & social standards of the community.



2013 Spirit of Thunder Bay Award Recipients

Larry Brigham

Larry Brigham is a committed and devoted Volunteer for over 20 years. He has been a board member and chaired many committees for Lakehead Social Planning Council, including participating in Poverty Free Thunder Bay conducting presentations in various forums; Inter-Ministerial Planning and Action Committee, Child Advocacy Office of Ontario Government. Larry is a teacher at Fort William Baptist Church, Elder & Vice Chair at Central Free Church; member of the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army, and Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital and Co-coordinator of the Adult group at Redwood Park Church. Larry supports the United Way as one of its public speaker and as a fundraiser. He volunteered on the Ontario College Counsellors Association, on the Ethics Committee. Larry is probably most well-known for his voluntary work in establishing the

Regional Food Distribution Association (RFDA). Through his leadership and fundraising the amount of food provided has increased from a value of \$ 235,000 to 1.7 M per year. The RFDA, also under his leadership moved into a renovated warehouse/kitchen facility and is fulfilling the mandate "no one goes hungry in our midst". Larry Brigham received the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal, November 2012 for his outstanding contribution to community and country.

Alice Chony

Alice Chony has volunteered, for many organizations, in our City. She has been with the Zorya Ukrainian Dance Association for 20 years. At present she is coordinator for the Dance School, with 80 - 100 students each year. Alice organizes the dancers travel to out-of-town performances: Dryden, Sioux Lookout, Sudbury, Minneapolis Ukrainian Festival, Iron world Discovery Centre in Chishom Minn. Whistler, Victoria & Vancouver, BC. Dallas and Galveston, Texas. When they travel, the dancers are great ambassadors of our City. Alice is a Sunday school teacher and Parent Volunteer at the church camp. She keeps parents and dancers up dated with a monthly Zorya Newsletter. Alice organizes the annual large concert at our Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, and all other activities during the year. When they travel, the dancers are great ambassadors of our city. Alice, is involved with Girl Guides of Canada. Under Alice's leadership, several guides have received Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Adinburgh Awards. She wanted her students to understand other cultures, so she organized trips to Costa Rica, Mexico, Switzerland Germany and England. Her generous contribution of time and leadership in the community of Thunder Bay is greatly appreciated.

Alan Kaija

Alan Kaija has held many executive positions in the past 16 years. With the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 5. He served as Deputy Zone commander for two years, a Zone commander for four years, in Thunder Bay North, Red Rock and Nipigon. Alan served first and second Vice President and then as President for four years. He organized the North side Remembrance Day Service for many years. Legion members and friends look forward every Friday to his Fish and Chips Dinners. Alan is very deserving of this award.

Ingrid Koropeski

Ingrid Koropeski is a dedicated and committed volunteer. With her nursing background; she chose to volunteer in ways that benefit the health and mental wellbeing of individuals in our community. She has been with Meals on Wheels for 36 years, as driver and server and at the Information Desk at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre since it opened and prior at the Port Arthur General. Ingrid was with Telecare Thunder Bay for 24 years. She serves on the Board of Directors, Mission to Seafarers Lakehead since 2002; St. George's Anglican Church since 1955, as a member of the Church Women's Association for 30 years and served on the Diocesan Board of the Anglican Church Women. Thunder Bay has benefitted from Ingrid's volunteer commitment.

Brian Mallon

Brian Mallon has worked tirelessly for the sport of curling and his work has influenced thousands of curlers in Thunder Bay, Northwestern Ontario and Canada. Brian is 40 year member, and on executive of the Port Arthur Curling Club. He spent many years on the Sun Life Grand Prix, curling committee. He received a 25th anniversary, Grand Prix Honour award. He served on many Zone convener positions, In addition he has served as an Executive Director, President, Club Delegate, and other executive positions in the Northwestern Ontario Curling Association. Brian spent 15 years on the International Bonspiel Committee. He also volunteers with the Regional Food Distribution Association, his Church, the Arthritis Society and Salvation Army. Brian is a credit to volunteerism.

Chris Mills

Chris Mills has been a conscientious and active volunteer at Fort William Historical Park (FWHP) for 35 years. He began as a youth in the Naval Yard assisting the Shipwright. He is a member of the Canadian Corps of Voyageurs (CCV) a local group portraying Canadian Fur Trade and Military History. Presently he serves as President, coordinating their participation in special events and activities, such as the Fort William Historical Park's Haunted Fort Night, Fort Under Siege events and the recent War of 1812 Bicentennial Salute, his passion for history is reflected in his participation in several commemorative events: Battles of Stoney Creek, Mississegewa, Mackinaw Heights; The Great Rendezvous and Canada Day. He volunteers for the annual Cancer Run for the Cure and has participated in the Royal visit of Queen Elizabeth II in Toronto in 1984, the 200th Anniversary of the Arrival of Selkirk Settlers in Winnipeg, Manitoba and the visit of HMCS Ville De Quebec in Thunder Bay, in 2012. Chris is an ambassador representing CCV, FWHP and the City at numerous events across the continent. His work and dedication embodies the spirit of volunteerism.

Robert (Bob) A. Morgan

Bob Morgan's achievements date back to 1948 when The White Falcon Ski School for Elementary School Children was founded. He was also the founding director of Little Norway Ski Resort, which became the Big Thunder Ski Jumping Complex. Bob also played an integral role in securing the city's bid for the 1995 Nordic World Ski Championships. As chair of the Study Group, his efforts laid the ground work for one of the most high profile sports events our City has ever hosted. At Loch Lomond Ski Resort "Father" Morgan has taught literally thousands of citizens of all ages and abilities the joys of skiing and of living an active lifestyle. He has been inducted into the Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance, Ontario Division, Hall of Fame and was honoured for outstanding contribution to the Sport of Skiing in the Province of Ontario. Bob received a certificate of Achievement from the Canadian Ski Council. Bob Morgan is truly one of the pioneers of the Ski Industry in Thunder Bay.

Pat Skula

Pat Skula has been a volunteer at St. Joseph's Hospital for the past nine years. She was on the Board of Directors for St. John Ambulance (SJA) for 20 years before going through training as a handler with SJA's Therapy Dog Program and just recently stepped down from the Board after 30 years. Pat volunteers at both St. Joseph's Hospital and Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Center once a week with her dog Hawk. Pat is very much involved in our community in other capacities. She is a past Administration Officer for SJA's Brigade and a Medical First Responder. She has been a First Aid and CPR Instructor for SJA, Heart and Stroke and Red Cross as well as a volunteer with Red Cross' Disaster Relief. She is a volunteer with: the Thunder Bay Kennel Club, Lakehead Search and Rescue (for 30 years) and with the local chapter of the Federation of University Women, supporting the welfare of women and children by assisting with their activities and events. When asked why she volunteers, Pat stated, "I am lucky. I can't pay back but I can pass forward." Her contributions and ongoing commitment to the clients of St. Joseph's Care Group are greatly appreciated.

Susan Tennier

Susan Tennier is a dedicated, long-standing member of the Auxiliary to St. Joseph's Care Group. She is in her third year as President. She was treasurer for over 10 years and has served as Auxiliary representative on the Hospital Board for over 15 years. Susan was instrumental in updating the Auxiliary By-Laws and Executive Guidelines. She chaired a committee to increase membership and new fundraising ideas. Susan received the Auxiliary Life Membership in 2011 and the Provincial Health Care Auxiliary Life Membership in 2012. Susan is very deserving of the Spirit Award.

Gerrie Van Duyn

Gerrie Van Duyn was one of the founding members in 1987, of the Christian Reform Church Volunteer Group at the Dew Drop Inn. While original members have come and gone, Gerrie has remained faithful for over 25 years and acts as the groups' coordinator and planner. Gerrie accepts everyone as an equal and worthy of her respect. Gerrie has also been a volunteer in her church community. She has dedicated over 10 years of her time to helping young grade 2 children develop fine motor skills by teaching them to knit. She has also worked with the physically disabled, assisting them with Pool Therapy at the Frank Murphy community centre at St. Joseph's Heritage. "Neighbours helping neighbours" is the motto of the Dew Drop Inn and Gerrie Van Duyn has been a prime example of this philosophy for over 25 years.

Sinikka Ylinen

Sinikka Ylinen has volunteered at the Hilldale Lutheran Church for over 25 years, 20 of them as Treasurer. She has organized numerous events such as workshops, fundraising events, dinners, parties to bring the community together. Hilldale Lutheran Church was originally an independent

Finnish Church and she was one of the leaders in the planning process of the new church on Hilldale Road which would serve the old Finnish Community while making a transition to the greater community of Thunder Bay. Sinikka serves on the Board of Directors of the Hilldale Garden's Retirement Home, working tirelessly on projects. From 1997 to the present, Sinikka helps seniors and people with disabilities at Luther Court, looking after the security of the residents, visits the sick, organizes events for the residents' enjoyment. She has been the Secretary and member of the Suomi conference the umbrella organization for the Finnish Lutheran Church across Canada, since 2004. Sinikka has shown initiative, energetic dedicated leadership with a far sighted vision of the future.

2013 Youth Award Recipients

Irena Bylinskyy

Irena has volunteered countless hours at Hogarth Riverview Manor, Home for Senior Residents. She brings her residents warmth, kindness, compassion and consideration. She also sings at some of the faith services at the Home. Irena also accompanies meal on wheels services and sings in the church choir. As a member of "Caring Hearts", she volunteers with palliative residents, and brings with her a calming effect on the residents.

Bonnie Donaghy

Bonnie has completed an amazing 400 community hours at the secondary level this year; that includes time playing the piano, saxophone and guitar in the Gryphon Gala, being school score keeper, camera operator for High School Idol, planting trees by Boulevard Lake with Councillor A. Foulds for Arbour Day and taking part in Spring Up to Clean for the last 11 years to name a few. Bonnie has also participated in Readers Are Leaders to help children read and find reading fun.



Jacqueline Dyck

Jacqueline has been a part of the Parkinson Society of Canada since 2001, the Northern Cancer Research Foundation from 2004 to 2007 and Co-Chair of Event Planning for We Stand Up since October 2012. Volunteering with the Parkinson Society Canada, she has helped with everything from tulip sales to participating in the Super Walk every year. Jacqueline and her sister helped raise over \$2,000 by telephoning everyone in the family phone book. Jacqueline has been featured with her mother and sister in a LUNAFEST documentary in San Francisco about the importance of volunteering for cancer research. She has been involved in the Thundering Women Music Festival, Summer in the Parks and Teddy Bears' Picnic. Jacqueline has been awarded the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, and the City of Thunder Bay Youth Strategy Award in May of 2012.



Shawn Gong



Currently in Grade 11 at Sir Winston Collegiate and Vocational Institute, Shawn began volunteering at age 11. Since then he has amassed over 400 volunteer hours. Shawn's volunteering includes time at the Lakehead University Superior Science Camp, Thunder Bay Youth Strategy Education Pillar and Thunder Bay Health Unit Youth Engaged in Tobacco Initiative Group. Shawn is an asset to the community and is looking forward to building a more unified community as evidenced by improving student engagement in school and volunteering for cooking classes at the Indian Friendship.

Chris Ivancic

Chris is very passionate about youth needs and initiatives. A natural leader, Chris has been a core member of our community's Natural Helpers program for the last four years as well as being involved in the North Western Ontario Secondary Schools Student's Association. The Natural Helpers program trains youth in communication, conflict resolution and suicide alertness, while providing them with the skills they need to support their peers. The North Western Ontario Secondary Schools Student's Association is a student run non-profit organization that brings youth together as one voice. Chris' involvement provides an avenue for students from all walks of life to become involved in relevant issues by creating opportunities for young people to work together and have their voices heard.



Hannah Rogers



Hannah is a long-serving volunteer with Fort William Historical Park since 2008 and has become an ambassador for excellent customer service. Not only does she volunteer in the summer interpretive program, but Hannah also assists with special events such as Anishnawbe Keeshigun, Haunted Fort Night and the New Year's Eve Frolic. Hannah leads by example and is always eager to share her knowledge and has become a valuable member of the team.

Gerrit Wesselink



Gerrit is a grade 12 student at L'Ecole Secondaire Catholique de La Verendrye. He has gone over and above the 40 hours of community service required by the Ontario Ministry of Education, accumulating over 2,300 hours in more than 10 different organizations throughout Thunder Bay and beyond, including: 1,113 hours as Vice-President at La Federation de la Jeunesse Franco-Ontarienne, 442 hours as its Northern Ontario representative, 70 hours as programmer-co-manager at Young Giants Radio and over 60 hours as the organizer at NYRDS (iNvolved Youth Representing a Diverse Society) and Co-Chair at Eco Superior Youth Action Team.

Victor Xiao

Victor has been helping out at the Lakehead Adult Education Center as a teaching assistant since September of 2010, specifically teaching Mandarin which is available to all young students, Grade 8 and under. His responsibilities include helping students with reading, writing and oral exercises. Victor supervises students during recess. He is committed to his weekly priorities and his work not only promotes the multi-cultural aspect of Canada but promotes awareness of the Chinese community in Thunder Bay.



Lauren Zimak

Lauren is a grade 12 student at St. Patrick High School. Through her service to the school, church and community she has become an ambassador for youth, modeling the importance of volunteerism. Since 2002, Lauren has been volunteering with the Youth Club, singing in the choir and serving at pancake breakfasts and spaghetti supper fundraisers and teaching Sunday school grade 2 students preparing them for their first Communion. She has also volunteered with Christmas Cheer and spent over five years at the Fort William Historical Park taking on the role of on-site interpreter and volunteering for special events that accent the importance of the Park in Thunder Bay's history. Lauren will pursue a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing which supports her dedication to serve and support people at important times in their lives.

