



Subject: *Municipal Volunteer Recognition Nominations & Model Volunteer 2024*
To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee
Date Prepared: March 1, 2024
Related Motions: N/A
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Approved by: Alana Tapper, Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Summary

This report outlines nominees for 2024 East Hants Volunteer Awards and provides a recommendation for the recipient for this year's Model Volunteer Award.

All eligible nominees are recommended to receive a Volunteer Award. One volunteer who is deemed to fulfill the criteria is recommended to be awarded Model Volunteer. The Model Volunteer will represent East Hants at the 2025 Nova Scotia Provincial Volunteer Awards.

The Model Volunteer is kept confidential until the presentation of the award. The recommendation was provided to Council in a confidential memo identifying the nominee.

Financial Impact Statement

Costs related to the Volunteer Awards are included in the Parks, Recreation and Culture operating budget.

Recommendation

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee recommends to Council to approve the Volunteer Award nominees and the Model Volunteer be accepted as presented in the confidential memo.

Recommended Motion

Move that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee recommends to Council to approve the Volunteer Award nominees and the Model Volunteer be accepted as presented in the confidential memo sent to Council by email; and for the Model Volunteer to be designated to represent the Municipality of East Hants at the 2025 Provincial Volunteer Awards.

Background

At the January 2024 Council meeting, it was approved to host the Volunteer Awards ceremony on April 19, 2024 at the Enfield Fire Hall in conjunction with the annual Firefighter Long Service Awards.

Promotion for volunteer nominations began in January with social media posts, advertisements, direct communications with community groups via email and inquiries through the office. Applications were made available in the municipal office and on the municipality's website. The deadline for nominations was February 16, 2023, and was extended to February 19, 2023.

This year there are a total of 22 eligible nominations.

Discussion

The following is a list of nominees for the 2024 East Hants Volunteer Awards:

Volunteer Nominee	Nomination Organization
Betty-Lou Snook	Girl Guides of Canada
Brad Hodgins	Shubenacadie Canal Commission
Christian Miller	Hants North Baseball Association
Elizabeth Miller	Noel United Church Board of Stewards
Evelyn Ekstrom	Mount Uniacke Community Improvement Committee
Jamie and Angela Callaghan	Kids Action Program
Janice Lockyer	CHArt Society of Maitland
John Canning	Corridor Minor Baseball Association
Judy Yetman	Uniacke & District Br. 165
Karen Levy	Shumilacke Foodbank Society
Karen Raisbeck	East Hants Skating Club
Ken McLeod	CHArt Society of Maitland
Lynne Smith	After Trauma Empowerment Network
Margie Neumann	The Rising Tides New Horizons Group
Marion Miller	Noel and District Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
Mary Bond	Noel and District Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
Peter Giffen	Milford Recreation Association
Robert Seary	Hants North Food Bank
Tonette McPhee	Rawdon 4H
Troy Robinson	CHArt Society of Maitland
Wade Redden	Noel United Church
Zach Brown	East Hants Sport Heritage Society

Canadian Volunteer Fire Service Association (CVFSA) Municipal Long Service Awards

Staff also requested for all East Hants Fire Departments to identify any firefighters who are eligible to receive a long service award in 2024. Volunteer Fire Departments may nominate a fire services member for a CVFSA Municipal Long Service Award medal for 30 years of service and additional long-service bars for 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service. This year, there were seven (7) recipients identified by the East Hants Fire Service who will also be invited to the Volunteer Awards to be presented their medals/bars.

Model Volunteer

The recipient for Model Volunteer was identified by an event committee of staff from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department. Each committee member reviewed the nominations and identified a Model Volunteer whose commitment and dedication to the community clearly stood out. A confidential memo was sent to Council with the Model Volunteer recommendation as part of this report.

Award Ceremony

The award ceremony is scheduled to take place at the Enfield Fire Hall on April 19, 2024. Doors open at 6:00pm with awards beginning at 6:30pm following greetings and speeches from officials in attendance. The meal will be served at 7:00pm followed by a presentation of the Fire Fighter Long Service Awards, the Volunteer Awards and Model Volunteer announcement.

Nominees are invited to bring up to three (3) additional guests to the ceremony. Each member of Council is invited to bring one (1) additional guest. Local Members of Parliament and the local representative from the CVFSA are each invited and are able to bring one (1) additional guest each.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The Volunteer Awards support the Strong Community key strategy by showing appreciation for our community volunteers and fostering a pride of place for within the communities of East Hants.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Volunteer Award ceremony is part of the Parks, Recreation and Culture operating budget with a total budget of \$6,150.

Alternatives

N/A

Attachments

Confidential memo regarding the recommendation for the 2024 Model Volunteer was provided via email.