



Subject: *Municipal Volunteer Recognition Nominations & Model Volunteer 2025*
To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee
Date Prepared: March 4, 2025
Related Motions: N/A
Prepared by: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Approved by: Kim Ramsay, CAO

Summary

This report outlines nominees for 2025 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 with one volunteer recommended to be awarded Model Volunteer. The Model Volunteer will represent East Hants at the 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 be designated to represent the Municipality of East Hants at the Provincial Volunteer Awards.

Background

Council approved hosting the Volunteer Awards ceremony on May 2, 2025 at the Noel 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.

This year there are a total of 18 eligible nominations.

Discussion

The following is a list of nominees for the 2025 East Hants Volunteer Awards:

Volunteer Nominee	Nomination Organization
Becky Neil	Noel & District Volunteer Fire Auxiliary
Caius Doyle	East Hants Curling Association
Elaine Singer	Noel & District Volunteer Fire Auxiliary
Elizabeth Hill	CHArt Society
Glenda Blackburn	Noel United Church Board of Stewards
Jennifer Cox	Girl Guides
Joel Rines	Hants North Baseball Association
Joyce Custance	Girl Guides
Julie Ettinger	Hants North Baseball Association
Katie Hines	East Hants Community Health Board
Manuel Ching	Maitland Days Committee
Marjorie Thompson	CHArt Society
Nicole Smith	Noel United Church Sunday School
Patricia Whidden	East Hants Historical Society
Steve White	Kids Action Program
Terry Isenor	East Hants Curling Association
Trevor Hebb	Fundy ATV Club
Valda Bardell	Walton & Area Development Association

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 2025. 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.

Fire Fighter Name	Department	Years
Lee Roulston	Rawdon District Volunteer Fire	30 Years
Jeff Bond	Rawdon District Volunteer Fire	30 Years
Todd Pepperdine	Enfield Volunteer Fire Department	35 Years
Kevin MacLellan	Milford & District Volunteer Fire Department	40 Years
Leroy Burns	Kennetcook District Fire Department	50 Years

Arden Fillmore	Elmsdale Fire & Emergency Services	50 Years
Ralph Wardrope	Milford & District Volunteer Fire Department	50 Years

Model Volunteer

The recipient for Model Volunteer was identified by an event committee made up of staff from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department and Communications team. 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 Noel Fire Hall on May 2, 2025. 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 MLA's, 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 \$6,500.

Alternatives

N/A

Attachments

Confidential memo regarding the recommendation for the 2025 Model Volunteer was sent to Council via email.