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Seasons Greetings

The Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau will be closed for the Holidays starting December 23rd, 2020. We will reopen on January 4th, 2021. Have a Wonderful Holidays & Happy New Year!

Recently I read a truly awful joke about the year 2020 and I laughed until I cried. That horrible joke summed up the year. It has truly been an unfathomable year.

The public health crisis started nine months ago, it has changed all of us in ways we would have thought unimaginable, for example: we have a new vocabulary, we use physical barriers to keep separated from each other and standard household items are hoarded.

The impact on our non-profit/charitable sector has been challenging and changing. At the start of the year many organizations were already confronting a changing financial picture as traditional grant and program funding streams were depleted or cut. The onset of the public health crisis, subsequent lockdown and ongoing restrictions added additional stressors to cash flow and budget projections. Annual fundraisers were cancelled and revenue streams suspended. Subsequent emergency relief from Government and other providers has eased the most immediate of these issues, however long-term sustainability will continue to be of issue for most organizations.

Restrictions and the lockdown forced our organizations to re-examine how and when they could deliver services. Remote work, insufficient technology and increased service needs dictated that program and service delivery models for the most part had to change. The goal was and still is to decrease people's exposure to the virus. A number of our organizations are implementing digital service delivery and/or a combination of face-to-face and digital. Organizations who must work face-to-face are changing protocols to ensure safety.

We do not know what a post-pandemic world will look like; as we enter into 2021 we can only hope that within the next six months we may be able to achieve the beginning of some sense of normalcy. As a sector we need to adapt to continue to meet the needs of our communities that were there prior to the pandemic and will still be there post-pandemic. As well there will be additional challenges as our communities move through the aftereffects of the crisis.

There may be years of difficulties and challenges ahead. The ability of the sector to adapt, to be flexible and to transform is now.

Wishing you all a restful holiday season.

Cheers,
CAP



VOLUNTEER AWARDS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

In recognition of International Volunteer Day the Grande Prairie Volunteer Service Bureau and sponsors presented the 2020 Volunteer of the Year Awards.

The GPVSB launched the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2009. The award honours an extraordinary resident of the Grande Prairie region whose volunteer contributions in the most recent twelve month period made a considerable impact within the community. In 2013 we added the Corporate Volunteer of the Year Award to recognize a company or business that, through its staff and policies supporting volunteerism, made an impact on a not-for-profit organization in the last twelve months. Along with the Volunteer of the Year Awards the GPVSB presents the Outstanding Volunteers in the Community awards that recognizes individuals, groups and businesses who have improved quality of life in the community through volunteer work.

Watch the Awards presentations at https://youtu.be/ofCobE_1jGY.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Wendy Doucet

Wendy's contribution across several organizations has made a significant impact in the community but none more so than her efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to local seniors and the elderly.

Wendy has been a volunteer with Friends of Grande Spirit for 14 years. When COVID hit Wendy immediately stepped up, translating policy into best practice; implementing public health recommendations into the fabric of everyday life for seniors, staff and visitors. Temperature checks, social distancing, masks, hygiene practice were her mantra and it saved lives. As a direct result of her work Grande Spirit Foundation did not experience the rampant spread of the disease that they so easily could have.

Wendy goes wherever she is needed to help. During Easter and Thanksgiving she organized and delivered 300 meals to independent seniors' homes in the area. She is working on the Christmas meal and delivery plan as we speak. Of course, to have the funds to supply these meals there are many events that must take place. Wendy tirelessly helps organize and run these events.

On Grandparents Day Wendy delivered 100's of cupcakes to seniors, she feels our seniors deserve some pampering and she is always willing to help, driving many miles in her own personal vehicle.

As well as volunteering at Festival of Trees and Salvation Army Kettle program 3 times a week, Wendy has also volunteered for the Grande Prairie Storm, Safe Communities and any organization that may need help at Casinos or Fundraisers.

"Wendy has a huge heart and she shares it with everyone without concern, to lighten the day of so many".

Congratulations Wendy, you make a difference and we are so proud to have you as our 2020 Volunteer of the Year.

Award sponsored & presented by Servus Credit Union - Servus Credit Union represented by Jaimie Rigler.



CORPORATE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Grassroots Realty Group

(Award accepted by Yuri Smith and Morgan MacLean)

Community engagement for the Grassroots Realty Group is built on a company-wide policy that fosters volunteering and encourages their staff to be actively engaged in promoting volunteerism, philanthropy and giving back.

A young business in Grande Prairie, this branch started in 2017, Grassroots Realty staff are actively involved in community events entrenching their belief that the donation of employee's skills and talents can be more valuable than a cash donation. They have organized and or participated in Art Shows, BBQ' and fashion shows with all proceeds going to our local community organizations.

This year Grassroots has stepped up to help local organizations who are struggling as a direct result of the COVID-19 crisis. Countless hours of volunteering including fundraising has made a significant difference to help organizations stay afloat.

Also part of their corporate business plan is the establishment of the Roots Foundation. A portion of each of their business transactions are donated to the Foundation and these funds are then used to assist the organizations in the community where each branch is located.

An annual event for this group is their 12 Days of Christmas. During this time 12 different agencies will benefit from the work and vision of this outstanding Corporate Citizen.

What makes this so inspirational is that Grass Roots has a younger demographic and that even as a new business, giving back was in the business plan.

Thank you Grassroots Realty Group and congratulations.

Award sponsored by the Prairie Mall



GRASSROOTS
REALTY GROUP

**Grande Prairie & Area Non-Profits
thank your volunteers with**



**Nominate your Volunteers by filling out the online
nomination form at www.volunteergp.com**

Volunteers of the Week receive; a \$5.00 Gift Card & Mug from Tim Hortons, a certificate of appreciation, public recognition on our website, our social media sites & in our article in Friday's Daily Herald-Tribune on the week they are recognized. Volunteers are also entered into the Volunteer of the Month Draw & can win a \$100 Tim's Card!

**Nominators are responsible for informing nominee of nomination & arranging pickup of recognition package from GPVSB Office.*



Your choice of one of four mugs!

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Community...
n-profit sector.



Lori Brough

Lori Brough is a very dedicated volunteer at the Wapiti Nordic Ski Club. She is the designated accountant, serves on the board as Treasurer and directs the Mountain Bike program and the Race team. Lori also creates and coordinates events, races and programs for the Club.

She is committed to continuing to share her knowledge & experience by developing programs and events. Lori has a passion for bettering athletes, developing community leadership & inspiring young women in the region to become strong and independent.



Angie Crerar

Angie Crerar believes in the power of volunteering and she has been a volunteer for over 42 years. She has served on numerous boards over the years and is on both Metis Local & Metis Region 6 boards at the present.

Angie has volunteered many years for the Grande Prairie Friendship center and the Red Cross. She is best known for her tireless work for the Metis people of Grande Prairie and the Peace Region to get recognition and inclusion. Angie had a vision for an Elders Caring Shelter & through many... many volunteer hours, making sure she was a regular visitor to the Mayor's office and putting our local Member of Parliament on speed dial she made that happen.

In addition Angie was an instrumental advocate for the rights of the Metis people, due to her & her colleagues resolve and commitment a landmark court decision in 2011 ensured that those rights were embedded in the Canadian Constitution. Angie continues to work towards the fulfilment of those rights.



Karen Kosvold

Karen Rosvold is an active community volunteer committed to creating safer, stronger and more resilient communities within the County of Grande Prairie.

Karen is the board chair for FCSSAA (Family & Community Social Services Association of Alberta), and on the board for SPPARC (South Peace Physicians Attraction and Retention Committee). She also is a pro-advocate for a wide variety of non-profit and charitable organizations.

Karen is a Counsellor for the County of Grande Prairie,

however, outside of her duties for the County Karen is an active volunteer in her home community of La Glace, helping out and volunteering with the Viking Cultural Centre, La Glace Ag Society, and the La Glace Curling Club. She is the caretaker for Northfield Cemetery, and volunteers at the Calvary Lutheran Church.

Sharon McLean Sharon has a long history of volunteer involvement starting as a teenager volunteering as a Candy Stripper at her local hospital primarily on the Pediatric unit. She states that this experience prepared her for motherhood, as she didn't have any younger siblings. As a parent volunteer she was often engaged with activities her kids were involved in and incorporated volunteering as simply a part of everyday life.

In the past ten years her volunteering has been focused with the Northern Lights Restorative Justice Committee and she considers this one of the most rewarding periods of her life. In 2019, through the vision & leadership of our Committee Chair, Patricia Cooke, the Northern Lights Restorative Justice Association was formed and Sharon took on the role of Board President for the Association happy to work alongside a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors, building a foundation for a Restorative Justice Program within our region.

Sharon believes that volunteers are the heart and soul of our organizations and our communities. A statement we heartily endorse.

ess of the non-profit sector.



Taj Johnson

Taj Johnson is well known in the community as a young entrepreneur. He is also a dedicated volunteer who can be counted on to help out whenever and wherever he is needed.

Taj is a volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters, he helps out with the GP Men's Basketball Association and the Caribbean Association of

Grande Prairie. He is also an active Rotarian.

He believes in community: Taj feels we have all utilized some volunteer organization in our lives so it is important to give back. A belief he holds so dearly Taj was instrumental in forming the Roots Foundation an adjunct of his business that provides funding to charities and non-profits in the community.

An inspiration to us all we are so pleased to recognize Taj as an Outstanding Volunteer for 2020



Tom Pura

(Photo Credit: Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce)

Tom Pura is indispensable as a volunteer for us here at GPVSB as well as most event planners in Grande Prairie and area. Tom is the 'go to guy' if you need an Emcee, and no matter what happens he is never fazed and everything goes off smoothly.

Tom is a passionate advocate for mental health and for several years

he has volunteered as a facilitator with the Resource Center for Suicide Prevention men's group 'Men at Risk'.

A firm believer in giving back to the community he has been a volunteer coach, helped with Festival of Trees, assisted with reading programs in schools across the community and with the Museum History contest for children.

the non-profit sector.



Tyla Savard

Tyla Savard started volunteering to make a difference and she has. Actively involved in a number of organizations Tyla is best known for her advocacy and promotion of Mental Health and Addictions Services.

Currently she is the Acting President of the Grande Prairie Rotary Club and the Chair of the Rotary District

Membership Committee. She is a Board Member of the John Howard Society and PARDS where she is the acting Vice-Chair. She sits on the Community Opioid Response Task Force Committee and the AHS Addiction and Mental Health Provincial Advisory Council and volunteers with Moms Stop the Harm and Peace County Drug Awareness.

As well she is a Member of the Integrated Coordinated Access Team.



Jessica Schoepp

We would like to thank Jessica Schoepp for her tireless contribution to volunteerism in Grande Prairie. A mother to 6 children and running a business with her husband Jessica still finds time to volunteer.

Jessica is currently the President for the Woman in Business Board

of Directors, she is interim treasurer for the Grande Prairie Pride Association and a Director with the Board of the Gay and Lesbian Association of the Peace. She also volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters and in the summer can be found volunteering at the Bear Creek Music Festival.

Outstanding Volunteers Sponsored by: Lions Club of Grande Prairie and Swan City Rotary Club of Grande Prairie

GRANDE VOLUNTEER AWARDS

prairie

This year GPSVSB partnered with the City of Grande Prairie to present their annual volunteer awards: **the George Repka Outstanding Achievement Award**, recognizing individuals who have made a major contribution in the areas of recreation, culture, or social services to the community; and **the Bill Bowes Volunteer Organization of the Year Award** recognizing volunteer organizations or foundations in Grande Prairie that have provided outstanding contributions to the community through meritorious service, voluntary contributions and exemplary community development having a direct, positive effect on residents of the City of Grande Prairie.

The 2020 Winners are:

GEORGE REPKA OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS:

Fletcher Bootle

Fletcher Bootle has been volunteering within the City of Grande Prairie since 1991,

when he and his wife Diane moved to Grande Prairie for work. In this time, he has volunteered for numerous organizations and community groups. Some of these groups include:

- United Way Board of Directors
- Community Foundation Board of Directors
- Chair of the Rotary District Conference (2012)
- Special Olympics Games (2015)
- Chair of the International Fellowship Curling Bonspiel (2016)
- President of Grande Prairie Rotary Club (1997/1998)
- Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC) Board of Governors
- Member of the GPRC Wolves Athletic Advisory Committee

Mr. Bootle's volunteer list is extensive, as is his knowledge and dedication to each position. He has built an amazing legacy of service in the community.



Vikki Ross

Vikki Ross has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Grande Prairie Residential

Society (GPRS) for over 35 years, with her availability to volunteer for GPRS linked to the flexibility of her role as an Occupational Therapist with Alberta Health Services Home Care.

She continues to be an instrumental part in providing professional support for funding applications. As an Occupational Therapist, Ms. Ross is a long-term member of the Society's screening committee and is a vital part of determining the fit for persons requiring barrier-free accommodations with available units.

As secretary to the Board since 2009, Ms. Ross has provided critical guidance in creating accurate meeting minutes, creating a policy and procedure manual, and supporting Society operations.



Awards were presented over ZOOM by City of Grande Prairie Mayor Bill Given

BILL BOWES VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER:

Stitch Club of Grande Prairie

The Stitch Club of Grande Prairie was formed in 2001 and is comprised of 30 members. The group makes items such as hats, blankets, scarves and mittens which are donated to those in need within the Grande Prairie and Area community.

The club donates these hand made materials to organizations in need, including but not limited to AD Society, Cancer Hat Tree, Coats for Kids, Odyssey House, Red Cross, Rotary House and Teen Shelter.

The group donates a tremendous amount of materials each year, in 2018 the group made and donated 3,110 items, followed by 4,170 items in 2019 and 4,547 items in 2020. Each one of these items are hand

made and donated by the members of the club. The Stitch club sets out to challenge themselves each year to increase their output and serve more of the community, a challenge that they have risen to year after year thanks to the dedication of their members.



Stitch Club of GP's 2019 donations
(Photo by Stitch Club of Grande Prairie)

The Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau would like to thank the following organizations for supporting this year's Volunteer Awards:

**Corporate Volunteer of the Year
Award Sponsor**



PRAIRIE MALL

**Volunteer of the Year Award
Sponsor**



Outstanding Volunteers in the Community Sponsors



Swan City
Rotary
Club of Grande Prairie





“ATCO is proud to present the Leaders of Tomorrow awards and recognize the youths who give their time and effort to enhance their communities throughout the South Peace Region.”

The Leaders of Tomorrow Awards presented by ATCO, honour outstanding young Leaders in Grande Prairie and the surrounding area. The awards are presented to young individuals between the Ages of 13 to 18 who exhibit dedication and excellence in their fields of volunteer work including school, community, social activism, athletics or arts; and, inspire the spirit of volunteerism in others. Recipients receive a Leaders of Tomorrow Awards trophy, a certificate, cash award of \$100, and a \$100 donation to the charity of their choice. The Awards are usually handed out in April at the annual National Volunteer Week Appreciation Luncheon, but the Luncheon was also postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Watch the Awards presentations at https://youtu.be/ofCobE_1jGY.

This year we recognized 8 Leaders of Tomorrow in 4 categories; Leadership, Volunteering, Advocacy and Perseverance.

The 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow are:

Age Group 16 to 18

Leadership Award - Quinn Best

Quinn Best is the winner of the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Leadership. Quinn attends Beaverlodge Regional High School.

Quinn is an exemplary role model who empowers and supports others to achieve their very best at whatever they do. She motivates, inspires and encourages her peers and younger students to give back to the community by leading with example and promoting civic pride.

Never one to shy away from what is needed to be done; Quinn is involved in a wide range of volunteer activities in Beaverlodge. She is a Youth Leader for various organizations as well as an assistant volleyball coach. She is often found working in the office or the canteen at her school, helping out with the community activities including the Beaverlodge Food drive and is a involved member with the Blazing Emeralds 4-H.

Quinn finds solutions to challenges and embodies caring, understanding and kindness in everything she does. She focuses on the strength and resiliency of her community, demonstrates responsibility and drive and actively looks for opportunities to help build the future of her school and community.

This year has brought change and anxiety to many, clearly exposing that we live in a turbulent and uncertain world. Young leaders such as Quinn demonstrate the hope and pride of their generation. We know that tomorrow will be in good hands with her.



Volunteering Award - Shaen Gignac

Shaen Gignac is an outstanding member of the Valleyview community and the recipient for the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Volunteerism. Shaen attends Hillside High School.

Shaen makes his daily life an opportunity to help others. He starts every school morning arriving before everyone else to ensure that all is ready for 250 students to eat breakfast. He has done this for the last three years. As an active member of the Christian Leadership Group at his school, Shaen, volunteers at the local daycare, visits residents in long-term care and other community activities. He also helps fundraise for a wide variety of charities and causes.

Shaen can be counted on to get the job done; he is representative of his generation of change makers, empathic, responsible and always striving to better the lives of others.

We commend Shaen for his passion and drive to bring about positive change through volunteering.



Advocacy Award - Rosie Plante

Sometimes advocacy doesn't mean picking up placards and marching in demonstrations, sometimes it means picking up the banner for one person and in so doing one changes the trajectory of acceptance for many others.

Rosie Plante displays a seriousness and resolve far beyond her years. She is incredibly hard working and completely dedicated to her siblings. At a very young age she became the champion for an older sibling struggling with mental health and identity issues. Her advocacy has shone a light on the need for better local services and support for the families of Transgender people.

Determined to make a better life for herself and her siblings, Rosie has worked tirelessly to both graduate early from Charles Spencer High School and to provide financially to make a move to Edmonton possible for herself and her sibling.

In all of this, Rosie still finds time for volunteering. When asked why she volunteers, Rosie said "It makes me acknowledge how much I have in life and I am happy to give back."

Change starts with one person willing to take the first step towards action. Leading by example through determination, courage and holding true to her own values, goals and ideals Rosie has demonstrated the power of youth for social change.



Perseverance Award - Natasha Manahan

The meaning of hidden gem is something that is a rare find that not many people know about: a most fitting description for Natasha Manahan. This quiet, soft spoken young lady is the first to step up to help in any situation.

Life has not always been easy for Natasha, and for some this would be an excuse not to give back not so for Natasha. Natasha has volunteered for several years at the Street Performers Festival, Grande Prairie Friendship Center, as well as other agencies within our community.

Working hard, following her convictions, commitment and dreaming big are the cornerstones of this young woman's belief system and despite obstacles she has had to overcome Natasha's determination, courage and genuine compassion for others has helped to inspire others to also give back. She is a shining example to other young people and has worked incredibly hard to get where she is today.

We are so very pleased to be able to recognize this remarkable young woman with the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Perseverance.



Age Group 13 to 15

Leadership Award - Zac Jickling

Zac Jickling is the winner of the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Leadership. Zac attends Sexsmith Secondary School.

Zac has distinguished himself through outstanding community involvement, demonstrating thoughtfulness, determination and a quiet strength in motivating and inspiring others to grow and develop their potentials.

Zac is very involved in the Sexsmith multi 4-H club & has volunteered in numerous events the club has organized. He was part of the 4-H student exchange program and spent a year in Japan. Each year Zac also volunteers for the United Church Fall Supper and the Sexsmith Annual food drive.

Zac continues to challenge himself to develop new skills. He demonstrates leadership in his calm demeanor rising above circumstances and maintaining personal and group stability. Zac continually sets an example by going the extra mile and doing more than what's expected.

As a young Leader of Tomorrow, Zac has demonstrated perseverance and confidence. He is able to move people towards new possibilities and purposes, accepting, handling and thriving in the midst of change.



Volunteering Award - Nikolas Slade

Nikolas Slade is the winner of the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Volunteerism. Nikolas attends Sexsmith Secondary School.

Nikolas is a trusted and reliable volunteer and gives his time to help the seniors in his community going above and beyond the usual role of a volunteer. He is dedicated and committed to ensuring that seniors can remain independent and living in their homes for as long as possible. No matter what the task Nikolas is willing to help part of which is making sure their sidewalks are clean, the leaves raked and the snow is shoveled. He is also involved in the Bread Run project in Sexsmith.

This young man demonstrates how change begins with the smallest intentions for the benefit of the community; Nikolas is an inspiration for all ages as he works to lighten the load of many residents in Sexsmith.



Advocacy Award - Akisa Mukaga

Akisa Mukaga is a grade 7 student at St. Josephs High School. She has a passion for fighting social injustice and her unconditional respect for all people regardless of their circumstance has created in Akisa the drive and resolution to find her voice and advocate for social change and a better future for her generation.

Akisa has the courage and a willingness to do something in spite of fear. She looks for the positive and builds from a position of strength & hope. Her ability to recognize the significance of small acts in the effort to attain a greater outcome is showcased by her involvement in the community and her school.

This past summer the progression of anti-blackness and antiracism movements encapsulated by the Black Lives Matter movement, the barrage of black deaths on TV at the hands of law enforcement coupled with her own experience of being the subject of racial bullying motivated Akisa to raise awareness in her own community. Akisa and a friend collaborated with local organizers to plan for and lead the Black Lives Matter protest in Grande Prairie.

Akisa is an avid champion for the rights of others. She intervenes and supports her classmates and other students who are being subjected to bullying and discrimination. She also manages the unsanctioned Grande Prairie BLM Facebook page.

Against a background of climate change, a global pandemic and racism Akisa is a change-maker for her generation. A young Leader of Tomorrow, she is raising her voice and proving that there is no age limit for social change.



Perseverance Award - Mark Tagal

Mark is a young man from Valleyview, who initially was very shy, through volunteering he has found his voice in speaking up for those less fortunate. He has shown us that dedication and perseverance can have an incredible impact on personal growth and the community. The winner of the 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow Award for Perseverance, Mark is a student at Hillside High School in Valleyview.

Mark is passionate about helping others: he volunteers in the school assisting with a variety of programs. He also fundraises for local, national and international charities. His infinite patience, kindness and empathy is evident in his time spent with residents in long-term care. He is often found helping wherever and whenever needed within his community.

Through perseverance, hard work and commitment Mark has developed strengths and talents that he didn't know he possessed. He has improved the present for many, inspired others to develop a sense of pride and interest in volunteering and in so doing is ensuring a healthy secure future for his community.



Congratulations to all our 2020 Leaders of Tomorrow!

The Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau would like to thank the following organizations for supporting this year's Volunteer Awards:

**Leaders of Tomorrow Awards
Presenting Sponsor**



**Leaders of Tomorrow Awards
Contributing Sponsor**



Leaders of Tomorrow Awards Award Sponsors



Additional Sponsors



SANE-ITIZER

Volume 2 of our SANE-ITIZER Newsletter has a new issue released online every two weeks at <https://wired2hire.ca/newsletter/>

Each issue focuses on mental health resources, services and more.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Stay connected with the community & empower your organization with:



LEADERSHIP ENHANCEMENT FREE workshops for your organization!

- Policy and Procedural Development
- Board Governance Training
- Three (3) free workshops for up to 2 participants each (\$300value)s for your organization!

Training topics include: Finance and Accounting, Governance, Technology, Marketing, Time Management, Customer Service, Organizational Change, Community Relations, Professional Skills AND MORE!



PROMOTION & ADVERTISING

Share your events and make connections!

- FREE listing and link to your website on our Members Page
- Meet Me at the Mall - half day promotional spot in the Prairie Mall twice a year
- Promotion of your events on our social media networks and our Community Calendar
- Feature in our Member Spotlight



OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

Professional advisory & support

- Executive Directors Network Meetings
- Volunteer Coordinators Network Meetings
- Human Resources Functions
- Grant Support
- Interim Management
- Furniture Fair



ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES

Save money for your company!

- FREE use of meeting rooms, Zoom Video conference, presentation equipment, loan of library resources AND use of mailing address
- AFFORDABLE printing and copying (high volume scanning capability)
- Access to Adobe Acrobat Pro



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Connect with volunteers in our community!

- FREE Listing of Volunteer Opportunities
- Access to Online Volunteer Directory
- Volunteer Appreciation Events
- Volunteer Recognition Programs

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS FEES

Non-Profit: \$125.00

Corporate: \$200.00

For more information on membership and the benefits of joining contact us at 780-538-2727 or email info@volunteergrandepairie.com.



Congratulations to everyone that was recognized as Volunteers of the Week for the months of September, October and November 2020 & Congrats to those who won the Volunteer of the Month prizes.

The staff and board of the GPVSB would like to thank Tim Hortons for sponsoring our volunteer recognition program and fueling the volunteers of Grande Prairie & Area.



All Volunteers of the Week nominee (excluding those nominated by GPVSB) are entered into our Volunteer of the Month Draw. Volunteers of the Month receive a \$100 Tim Hortons gift card!

SEPTEMBER 2020 VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

- Genny Hoveland**
Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Grande Prairie & Area
- Gerald O'connor**
Elders Caring Shelter
- Barry Scott**
Elders Caring Shelter
- Theresa Nugent**
Elders Caring Shelter
- Gail Prette**
Grande Prairie Branch of The Alberta Genealogical Society
- Evelyn Helmrich**
The Community Village
- The Hon. Leela Aheer**
Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau
- Rhiannon Bradley**
Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Grande Prairie & Area
- Nicole Bissell**
Pregnancy Care Centre
- Dave Olson**
Sexsmith FCSS

SEPTEMBER 2020

NICOLE BISSELL

Congratulations Nicole!

The winner of September's Volunteer of the Month draw is Nicole Bissell, who was nominated for Volunteers of the Week by Pregnancy Care Centre. Here is a look back at what they had to say about their volunteer:

'Nicole puts in her time and then offers to work an extra day if we are short staffed. She always smiles and faces each challenge with enthusiasm. She is a joy to work with!'

OCTOBER 2020 VOLUNTEERS OF THE WEEK

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Lois Olson
FCSS Sexsmith | Ian Sewell
Central Peace FCSS | Heather Fedoruk
Spinal Cord Injury Alberta |
| Dolores Hollowell
Grande Spirit Foundation | Brenda Day
Central Peace FCSS | Tarah Patterson
Spinal Cord Injury Alberta |
| Sharon Albright
Grande Spirit Foundation | Michelle Sutley
Spinal Cord Injury Alberta | Raelyn Peterson
Sexsmith FCSS |

OCTOBER 2020



**BRENDA
DAY**

The winner of October's Volunteer of the Month draw is Brenda Day, who was nominated for Volunteers of the Week by Central Peace FCSS. Here is a look back at what they had to say about their volunteer:

'Brenda has been instrumental in delivering Meals on Wheels weekly to seniors for over a year. She cares about her community and our seniors' well-being.'

Congratulations Brenda!

**NOVEMBER 2020 VOLUNTEERS
OF THE WEEK**

- Bob Almond**
Meals on Wheels
- Dianne Almond**
Meals on Wheels
- Anna Underwood**
Town of Wembley FCSS
- Preston Ostrom**
Odyssey House
- Ryan Way**
Building Blocks Day Care
- Ken Hoveland**
Sunrise House
- Genny Hoveland**
Sunrise House
- Kari Lynne Rakestraw**
Girl Guides (2nd Grande Prairie Guides)
- Mikaela Primeau**
Meals on Wheels
- Colleen Sunshine**
Clairmont and District Agricultural Society
- Chris Stetsko**
Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation
- Tracy McFee**
Grande Prairie Squash Club

- Jodi Pierson**
Mother's Against Drunk Driving Grande Prairie
- Greg Durda**
David Duncan / Ronald McDonald House
- Scott Hagarty**
Grande Prairie Army Cadets
- Dawn Shaw**
Meals on Wheels
- Amber Shaw**
Meals on Wheels



The winner of November's Volunteer of the Month draw is Colleen Sunshine! Colleen was nominated for Volunteers of the Week by the Clairmont & District Ag. Society. Here is a look back at what they had to say about their volunteer:

'We are proud to nominate our Interim Treasurer. Not only did she step up at the beginning of the year she has not stop stepping up! If you need anything done Colleen is there to help out her community anyway possible without any recognition! She gives of her time freely from paperwork to good old elbow grease! She is a doer, giver and around beautiful person inside and outside!'

Congratulations Colleen!



NOVEMBER 2020



**COLLEEN
SUNSHINE**

Are you or someone you know struggling to find mental health and/or addiction help?

Introducing:

The Mental Health and Addictions Navigator Program!

This new program, offers support, tools and acts as a bridge connecting individuals to mental health resources. In addition to direct client support the program utilizes a collaborative approach to promote awareness, acceptance and advocacy of mental health and addiction.

People in need of support can contact the program navigator who will facilitate access to a wide range of services including: health, counselling, income assistance and other supports that enable them to participate more fully in their communities, and experience an improved quality of life.

For more information contact:

**Fringina Mukaga RSW, BSW, BASoc.
Mental Health and Addiction Navigator
email: mhan@volunteergrandeprairie.com**



Program supported by:



NOTE: This is not a crisis service

For an Emergency call 911, or Go to the nearest emergency room.

Mental Health Helpline: 1-877-303-2642 Addiction Helpline: 1-866-332-2322

For Immediate Crisis Support: text WELLNESS to 686868

COMING SOON IN 2021!

GPVSB's professional development courses are going virtual!

Courses Include:

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Strengthening Volunteer Boards

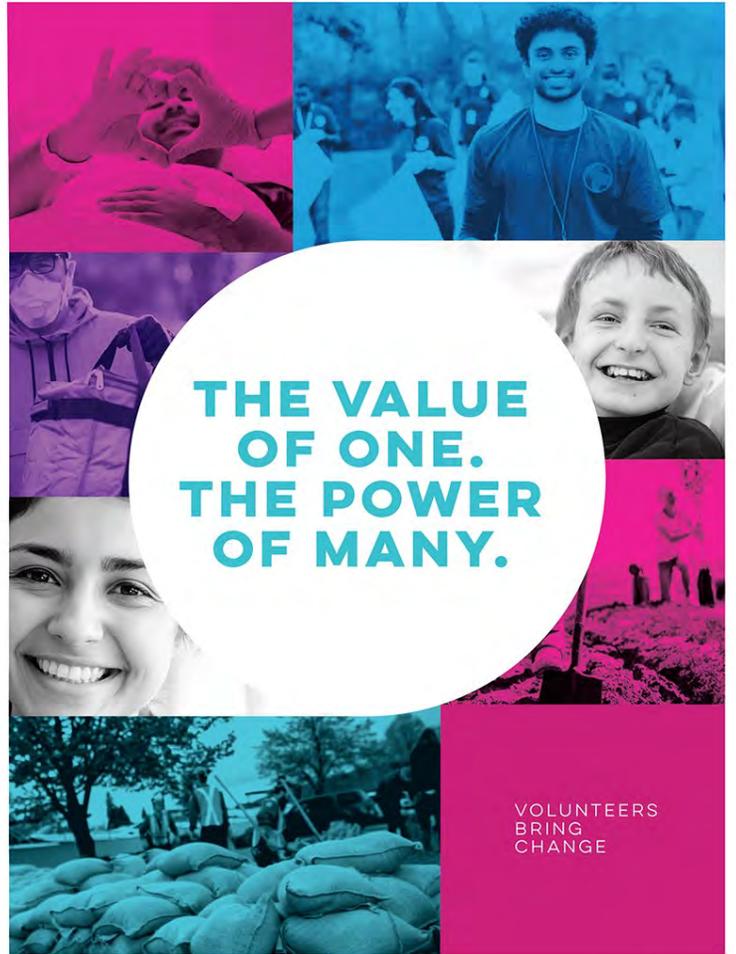


COMPUTER TRAINING



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THE POWER OF MANY.**

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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
APRIL 18-24, 2021



THE Grande Prairie Volunteer Services Bureau CAN HELP NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

RENEW

strategic plans

REVAMP

business plans

REFRESH OR REWRITE

policies

For information & pricing call 780-538-2727 or email info@volunteergp.com



GPVSB's entry into the Festival of Trees Mini-Tree Contest, Enchantment, finished third in this year's Kids Theme Category!

