BACKGROUNDER: Premier's Service Club Award Recipients



Balgonie Elks No. 572 – Since 1979 the Balgonie Elks have been active in their community by assisting individuals, groups and organizing local fund-raisers. Some of the local groups receiving assistance include Elks Seniors Homes, hospitals, sport facilities, the local swimming pool, the multiplex and rinks in Balgonie, the Early Learning Centre and the Heritage Court. In 1985 the Elks became involved in a drug awareness program, which promotes a chemical-free lifestyle for students in the Balgonie, Edenwold, White City and McLean area. Within Balgonie, the service club organizes golf tournaments, family curling spiels, lobster suppers, a travelling backyard barbeque, along with a Canada Day pancake breakfast and parade. The club has contributed to the Purple Cross Fund, a national charity that helps individuals with hearing impairments. The Elks were also the recipients of the Recruitment Awards in 2011 and 2012, while one of their members was elected Elks Canada president in 2001.

Kipling and District Lions Club – The Kipling and District Lions Club has been an extremely valuable service organization for more than 50 years. It has donated funds towards the building of the Kipling Community Centre, the Kipling and District Integrated Health Facility, the Kipling Rink, the Kingswood Golf Club, the Kipling Youth Centre, the Community Betterment Lottery and the Community Birthday Calendar. The Club has also contributed countless volunteer hours to the construction and care of Kipling's recreational facilities and green spaces. Members have worked to provide upgrades to the Kipling Arena, the Kipling Curling Club and the Kipling and District Swimming Pool. Each summer, the Club makes a generous donation to the Children's Summer Activities Program – a program which provides regular supervised activities for youth five days a week throughout the season. They have also donated to disaster relief funds all over the world including Haiti, Japan and the Philippines.

Meadow Lake Kinsmen and Kinettes – Formed in 1974, the Meadow Lake Kinsmen and Kinettes have been serving their community and province for more than 40 years by providing extraordinary contributions. The service club has organized skate-a-thons, walk-a-thons and bike-a-thons; music festivals; the Festival of Trees; Canada Day celebrations; the Buckle Up, Babies child and infant car seat rental program; bingos; and the Kids' Swim at Christmas. The group has played a major role in making life better in their community by sponsoring a family to attend summer camp, establishing a residence and sheltered workshop for people with disabilities, along with purchasing equipment for the Meadow Lake Hospital and the Northland Pioneer Lodge. They have ensured the equipment at the Spray Park, Jubilee and Lakeview schools are also wheelchair accessible. The group pledges support for school trips, educational programs and scholarships at both Carpenter High School and the Northwest Regional College. They also helped fund the Meadow Lake Aquatic Centre. Their work also extends beyond Meadow Lake through annual fund-raisers for Telemiracle.

Young Fellows Club of Weyburn – The Young Fellows Club of Weyburn was established in 1922 with the goal of making its community a better place to live. Since then, the organization has invested more than \$2 million into the community by donating to almost every major Weyburn project. Highlights of the Club's work include financial and volunteer support for the first outdoor pool in Saskatchewan in 1931; every local minor sports program; the health care system; fire department rescue vehicles; playground equipment; swimming lessons; an indoor pool; a second rink ice surface; and a splash park at the Don Mitchell Tot Lot. From its humble beginnings more than 90 years ago, the Club was founded with the following aims: to promote the spirit of fraternalism among its members; to develop its members for better citizenship; and to contribute in any way which it deemed advisable to public welfare. It should come as no surprise then, that the Club's motto is, "We serve."