

Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal 2019 Recipients

Susan Conly (Macklin)

Susan has given her time and talents, supporting community organizations and initiatives. The completion of her community's history book, as a founding member of the Macklin New Horizon for Seniors Center and collaborating in records retention for the Lakeview Cemetery Board, are just a few of many examples. Susan has been a weekly editorial contributor to her local newspaper for many years, providing commentary and personal viewpoints on life, family and historical events. She has supported literacy in her community through her writings as a published author and a scholarship donor at the school level.

Sidney R. P. Gaudry (Regina)

Sidney has spent his adult life volunteering for numerous organizations including Scouts Canada, St. Luke's Anglican Church, the Canadian Ski Patrol System and St. John Ambulance. Some of his volunteering highlights include being a first aid volunteer at the 1988 Calgary Olympics, weekly ski patrol Thursdays and Saturdays (over decades of winters) at Mission Ridge and as a dedicated leader and instructor at St. Luke's Anglican Church for over 30 years. He is a Member of the Order of St. John and has received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

Bula Ghosh (Swift Current)

Bula started getting involved in the community shortly after moving to Canada in 1981. She has been extensively involved with many organizations, including the Canadian Mental Health Association, Yorkton Open Door Society, International Women of Swift Current, Southwest Newcomer Welcome Centre, SaskCulture and Heritage Saskatchewan, just to name a few. She has been the president of Rotary Club Swift Current, board chair of Southwest Newcomer Centre, president of Southwest Multicultural Association, board member of South Saskatchewan Community Foundation and is a member of numerous other community organizations. In 2017, Bula received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

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Bart Hunter (Saskatoon)

Bart has given so much of his time to many community organizations, most recently as the chair of the 2019 Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame Induction Dinner. Other contributions to the community include volunteering for the Saskatoon Community Foundation, Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation, Junior Achievement and the Saskatchewan Hockey Hall of Fame. Bart was also a member of the Saskatoon Kinsmen Club for 25 years. He received the National Philanthropy Day Award in 2011, and was named to the List of Top 100 Volunteers by CTV for Saskatoon's 100th Anniversary.

Lorraine Iversen (Ogema)

Lorraine has spent countless hours promoting and encouraging the arts in her community. She has held positions with the Ogema Adult Drama Club, Ogema Arts Council, Ogema Chamber of Commerce, Ogema Seniors' Group, Weyburn Chapter of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, Lutheran Ladies, Newcomer Committee, Deep South Personal Care Home Board and the Deep South Pioneer Museum Board of Directors. She also belongs to a small group called Snip and Stitch, where she sews for charity. In 2011, she received the Saskatchewan Senior Mechanism award in the area of Heritage and Culture.

Bob Jeanneau (Saskatoon)

Bob's dedication and enduring commitment has helped to establish housing for more than 300 seniors in his community. He has been an active member in the Knights of Columbus for more than 60 years. While president of KC Charities Inc., Bob spearheaded the purchase of a 1.8-acre lot which was developed into a 62 suite seniors' residence. In 2000, an additional 16 units were added to the main building, followed by assisted living units completed in 2005. In 2012, 75 affordable apartments for seniors were developed in Saskatoon. He currently serves as chair of KC Charities' executive management committee, planning to expand to an additional 156 units of apartments and various support services. Bob has also served on the board of St. Anne's Home for 10 years and is a member of Holy Spirit Council.

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Albert (Al) Kildaw (Herbert)

A volunteer for more than six decades, Al's accomplishments are numerous. A few of the organizations that have benefited from his generosity include the Prince Albert Minor Hockey Association, Saskatchewan Amateur Hockey Association, Prince Albert Kinsmen Minor Hockey Association, Community Futures Southwest, Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association, East End Community Club, 1987 Pepsi Junior Curling National Championships, 1992 Saskatchewan Summer Games Results Committee, Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism and Meals on Wheels. In 1982, Al became the first recipient of the Fred Schmidt Memorial Trophy for dedication to minor hockey in Prince Albert.

Gene Krepakevich (Yorkton)

A dedicated volunteer in Yorkton for 50 years, Gene has lent his time to a wide variety of organizations. He coached, billeted players and served on the executive and administration for the Yorkton Terriers junior hockey team and is a volunteer with the team to this day. Gene served as co-chair of the RBC Memorial Cup in Yorkton in 1999, and has also been involved with the Richie Hall Golf Classic, Yorkton Terriers' Golf Tournament and Rhythm and Ribs weekend. Gene was a dedicated member of the Kinsmen Club in Yorkton and the Treasurer of the Parkland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Society for more than 30 years.

Gordon McRae (Davidson)

As president of Davidson Branch #51 of the Royal Canadian Legion, Gord has worked diligently to keep the act of remembrance alive in the community. He has been a tireless supporter and leader in the provincial Air Cadet League, an involvement that spans four decades and includes 553 Sherlock Air Cadet Squadron, Davidson, 107 Spitfire Air Cadet Squadron, Saskatoon and the Air Cadet League of Saskatchewan. He also gives his time to the Davidson Golf Course and the Davidson Historical Society. He has been awarded the Area Director of the Year, a Certificate of Honour from the Air Cadet League of Canada, the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal and was the Davidson Citizen of the Year in 2019.

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Joel Pedersen (Saskatoon)

Joel Pedersen has been an active volunteer in Saskatchewan for over 30 years. Self-defense for women and youth, youth soccer in Prince Albert and Saskatoon, youth baseball and minor hockey in Saskatoon, Indigenous youth running and sport programs for the inner city in Saskatoon and Northern Saskatchewan are just a few examples of communities and organizations that have benefited from Joel's time and generosity. In 2018, Joel was named Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association's Fitness Leader of the Year. Joel has also received the Canadian Forces Decoration, the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal and the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal.

Christine Ruys (Saskatoon)

Christine is the epitome of a volunteer in Saskatchewan. Her contributions are many, and include volunteering with Tourism Saskatoon, Saskatoon Zoo Society, Saskatoon Restorative Action Program, Saskatoon Folkfest, Wintershine Festival, Persephone Theatre, Fireworks Festival, Saskatoon Community Foundation, Development Appeals Board, Canada 150 New Year's Celebration, Don Narcisse Football Camp and Gala, Canadian Association of Police Boards Conference and Adelaide Park Churchill Community Association.

Jackie Schmidt (Regina)

Since moving to Regina in 2000, Jackie Schmidt has actively supported and advocated for the arts, culture and well-being of the city. She has been a dedicated board member, lending her leadership to organizations such as Friends of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Civic Museum of Regina, Curtain Razors Theatre, Heritage Regina and Regina Symphony Orchestra. She was named Regina Symphony Orchestra's Outstanding Individual Volunteer in 2017. She is part of the Regina Cultural Trailway project, creating an accessible network of cultural tours in the city. Regina Transition House and the Regina and District Food Bank have benefited from her fundraising efforts.