

Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal 2016 Recipients

Colin Bachynski (Regina)

Since 1989, Colin Bachynski has dedicated himself to improving Saskatchewan residents' health, safety and quality of life. Much of Colin's volunteer efforts have begun with organizations' need for near-term assistance, but his hunger to make a substantive change in and for Saskatchewan has led him on a lifelong quest to shape the various organizations that he volunteers with. He tirelessly strives to provide his enthusiasm and resources to the organizations that he serves. He inspires others around him to join the cause and volunteer to make Saskatchewan a great place. His many contributions, honours and awards include:

- Member, Adult Learning Centre, Employer Advisory Board
- Director, Canadian Institute of Management (Regina Branch)
- Member, Institute of Public Administration of Canada
- National Director, Junior Achievement of Canada
- President, Junior Achievement of South Saskatchewan
- Board of Directors, Royal United Services Institute
- Member, St. John Ambulance (Canada) Priory Council
- Provincial Executive, St. John Ambulance (Saskatchewan)
- Heartbeat Tour Participant, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
- Coach, Regina Minor Football Association
- Volunteer, Ronald McDonald House (Saskatoon)
- 33rd Degree Mason, Supreme Council of Canada, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry
- Permanent Contributing Member, Shriners Hospitals for Children
- Member, Wa Wa Shrine Temple
- Recipient, Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal
- Recipient, Saskatchewan Centennial Medal
- Recipient, Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
- Knight, Order of St. John (KStJ)
- Recipient, Order of St. John, Long Service Medal

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Shelley Fraser (Debden)

Shelley Fraser is a selfless individual who demonstrates outstanding leadership in her volunteerism. She is tireless in her efforts to raise awareness and volunteer for numerous charities in order to improve communities here and abroad. Shelley has volunteered in numerous ways in her home Province of Saskatchewan and in Calgary, Alberta. In addition to Saskatchewan and Alberta, she has given her time and efforts in Uganda. Her many contributions include:

- President, Ladies Auxillary, Royal Canadian Legion 286, Calgary
- Active Volunteer, November Poppy Campaign, Calgary
- Volunteer, Tapestrama, Prince Albert Multicultural Council
- Fundraiser, Food Bank, Mobile Crisis Unit, Prince Albert
- Volunteer, First Nations Winter Games, Prince Albert
- Volunteer, Special Olympics, Prince Albert
- Volunteer, Kateri House, Prince Albert
- Fundraiser, Communities of Big River First Nations and Debden
- Organizer, Silent Auction, Father Vincent Orphanage Project, Uganda
- Taught English in Uganda
- Led fundraising for a Mission School in Uganda

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Lori Glauser (Yorkton)

A strong advocate of the Saskatchewan arts community, Lori Glauser volunteers her time and talent to develop and grow various arts and culture organizations and projects both provincially and locally. Additionally, she works to develop and enhance her community. Her accomplishments include:

- Past Chair and Board of Directors, Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils
- Past Chair and Board of Directors, Yorkton Arts Council
- Past Chair and Board of Directors, Godfrey Dean Art Gallery
- Committee Chair, Sunflower Fine Art Craft Market
- Member and Volunteer, City of Yorkton, Community Development Parks and Recreation Committee

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Eva and Harry Martens (Osler)

For more than 35 years, Eva and Harry Martens have been dedicated to many organizations and programs in their community of Osler. Primarily, they have devoted their time and attention to visiting offenders incarcerated within the correctional system, providing inmates with essential support and guidance as well as advocating on their behalf. They are generous and altruistic. They consistently demonstrate compassion and kindness, while providing this meaningful service. Some of their accomplishments include:

- Participants, Person to Person Program, Correctional Service of Canada
- Members, Citizen Advisory Committee, Willow Cree Healing Lodge
- Volunteers, Regional Psychiatric Centre, Saskatoon
- Hosts, International Student Exchange Program
- Volunteers, Saskatchewan Federal Penitentiary, Prince Albert
- Volunteers, Habitat for Humanity

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Faeza Moolla (Regina)

Faeza Moolla's boundless energy has been a catalyst for many intercultural and multi-faith initiatives in Regina. She strongly believes in bringing communities of diverse backgrounds together and in building understanding and compassion for each other through dialogue and meaningful conversations. More recently, she has been actively involved in assisting Syrian refugees to become part of their new community. Her work through the Islamic Association provides immense support to a multitude of diverse organizations. Her contributions include:

- Member, Muslims for Peace and Justice Board
- Member, Islamic Association of Saskatchewan, Regina - Social Committee
- Member, Regina Multi-Faith Forum
- Member, Islamic History Month Canada Board
- Volunteer, Regina Open Door Society
- Participant, Body, Soul and Spirit Convention
- Participant, University of Regina Multi-Faith Fair Event
- Participant, Earth Day Programme at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum
- Volunteer, elementary school and soccer teams
- Speaker, University of Regina gender studies class and "Perinatal Loss Conference"
- Coordinator, Arts Project with Artist in Residence at Regina Pasqua Hospital
- Participant, Projects with Regina Food Bank and National Give 30 Campaign
- Participant, Give-Back from Muslim Community to Souls Harbour Mission
- Assistant, Terry Fox Regina Run 2015
- Student Volunteer, Apartheid South Africa
- Fundraiser, Coldest Night of the Year campaign for Regina's homeless
- Volunteer, fundraising projects for Food Bank
- Volunteer organizer in conjunction with a small committee, community events such as multicultural bazaars, community barbecues, fundraising food and baking stalls, cookie drives, clean-up campaigns, children's events and numerous other activities
- Volunteer, social media management for three organizations
- Invited as a Regina community builder to participate in a national conversation on the future of Canada
- Recipient, Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan: 2016 Betty Szuchewycz Award
- Recipient, 2016 National Philanthropy Day: Outstanding Individual Volunteer

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Reggie Newkirk (Lumsden)

Reggie Newkirk truly embodies Saskatchewan's motto, "From many peoples strength" and is a fierce enabler of the potential in Saskatchewan's diverse population. He is well-recognized for his work in promoting culture, diversity and the protection of human rights with a special emphasis on children and youth in the areas of multicultural policy, music and arts. His achievements include:

- Member, Creative Kids Saskatchewan Provincial Advisory Committee Member
- Member, Regina Alternative Measures Program, Victims Advocate
- Member, All Nations Hope Network Board of Directors
- Board of Directors, SaskCulture
- Founding Member, Saskatchewan African Canadian Historical Museum
- Member, Regina Jazz Society
- Member, Lumsden Library Board
- Member, Lumsden Park Manor Board
- Member, Lumsden Lions Club
- Member, Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan
- Member, Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages
- Member, Saskatchewan Nurses Association, Nomination Committee

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Janis Olesko (Prince Albert)

Janis Olesko is an enthusiastic, dedicated and results-orientated individual committed to education, culture, and community building. She was a teacher for 28 years, a farmer, a homemaker and a devoted volunteer in her community. Janis excels in fast-paced and challenging environments and enjoys motivating others to achieve common goals. Her energy and expertise enabled her to lead many projects and initiatives in Prince Albert. Her achievements and awards include:

- Executive, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (STS), Prince Albert Chapter
- Councilor and Executive , Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association
- Member, Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Recognitions Committee
- President, Prince Albert and District Ukrainian Cultural and Heritage Association
- Executive Member, Church Parish Board and UCWLC Ladies League
- Creator and Founder, "Discoveries" Prince Albert Children's Festival
- Founding Executive, Prince Albert Catholic Family Services
- President, Sadochuk (Prince Albert Ukrainian Preschool Program)
- President, Ukrainian Centennial Celebrations and 125th Anniversary Celebrations
- Volunteer, Rawlinson Arts Centre
- Volunteer, Prince Albert Parkland Health Region
- Volunteer, SaskTel Pioneers
- Recognized as CKBI-POWER 99FM's "Citizen of the Month"
- Recipient, Saskatchewan's "Spirit of 2005" Award
- Named one of Prince Albert Daily Herald's "Ninety Notable Citizens"
- Recipient, National Hilroy Fellowship Award

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Mary Wright (Denare Beach)

Mary Wright is a long-term board member for the Denare Beach Recreation Board and for more than 20 years has been committed to the community and its residents. She has spent countless hours investing in the future of local youth by ensuring the youth drop-in program continues to operate as a strong, viable community resource. Mary is committed to the development of sport, culture, recreation and to the preservation of nature. Her contributions include:

- Board Member, Chairperson, Denare Beach Recreation Board since 2010
- Volunteer, winter festivals, Canada Day celebrations, fall suppers, summer festivals, Fundraiser for Lifeguards
- Board Member, Northern Neighbours Community Foundation
- Board Member and Treasurer, New Horizons Seniors
- Organizer/participant, yearly seniors barbeques, Christmas parties and weekly meat draws
- Volunteer community arborist
- Mentor, summer students
- Supporter, Denare Beach youth drop-in centre
- Volunteer, New Horizons Seniors clubhouse

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Peter Zakreski, C.M. (Saskatoon)

From the banks of the South Saskatchewan River to the arid plains of Africa, Peter Zakreski has made an enduring mark as an activist, community leader and builder of common causes. Peter and wife Elaine's latest initiative, Hope For Malawi Charitable Foundation, brings urgently needed medical, educational, agricultural and community support to the Domasi Region of Africa. Peter is also known at the local level as a lifelong volunteer, civic leader and business executive in Saskatchewan. From advancing riverbank art to creating the legacy of the Canada Games Foundation, and now building bridges to Africa, Peter is an innovative, pioneering and exemplary community leader. His many accomplishments include:

- Founder and President, River Heights Community Association
- Founder and President, Saskatoon Personnel Association
- Founder and Secretary, Participaction Saskatoon
- Founder and Membership Chair, Bridge City Cosmopolitan Club
- Founder and President, Archibald Community Association
- Co-chair, Saskatoon United Way
- Management Committee, Western Canada Summer Games
- Management Committee Member, Jeux Canada Games Foundation
- President, Saskatchewan 91 World Junior Championship, Inc.
- Founder and Chair, Gordon Howe Homecoming
- Member, Saskatchewan Citizen's Advisory Committee on Anniversaries
- Chair, Bid Committee, World University Games
- Board Member, Women's World Softball Championship
- Member, Saskatchewan Governor General's Gala – Celebration of the Arts
- Chair, Friendship Inn
- Member, Mayor's Gala Committee
- Founder and President, Hope for Malawi Foundation Inc.
- Member, Knights of Columbus
- Board Member, Knights of Columbus Charities
- Member and Past President, Rotary Club of Saskatoon
- Member, University of Saskatchewan Alumni Board
- Member, St. Thomas Moore Alumni Association
- Presiding Official, Citizenship Court, Saskatchewan