

Volunteer Recognition Awards ~ 2026 RECIPIENTS ~

Bruce Smith | KV Fire Department



Since 2014, Bruce Smith has served as volunteer Chaplain for the KV Fire Department, providing compassionate spiritual and emotional support to both Rothesay residents and emergency responders while also coordinating practical assistance such as shelter, clothing, and other logistical needs for those affected by emergencies. His calm, supportive presence at emergency scenes and in the days that follow allows fire crews to focus on operations, while his delivery of programs that help firefighters manage the stress and psychological toll of their work reinforces a strong culture of wellness within the department. Known for his empathy, dedication, and steady leadership, Bruce's quiet impact has strengthened both community care and responder resilience in Rothesay.

"His sustained volunteer service over more than a decade reflects selflessness, reliability, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of others." - Nominator

Shawn Titus | KV Girls Softball



Since 2023, Shawn has served as Executive Director of KV Girls Softball, overseeing registration and rostering, leading the Firecracker travel teams, and improving processes such as clinics, winter training, and equipment management. In addition to his work with the board, he is actively on the field instructing players and supporting newer coaches, often serving as a go-to resource for members by explaining the "why" and "how" behind operations. Shawn's easygoing and positive approach helps players feel comfortable developing their skills, and his ongoing support has helped coaches grow while creating a positive experience for families in the community.

"Shawn's creative and visionary thinking has helped KVGSA to continue to improve our program. His credibility and constant relationship building demonstrates his investment to provide the best experience for all our membership." - Nominator

Kate Craik | Kennebecasis Valley Minor Hockey Association



Kate has been a long-time volunteer with Kennebecasis Valley Minor Hockey Association, holding several important roles and always looking out for the kids while organizing new and exciting initiatives. She supports members by scheduling games and practices and contributes in many other ways within the organization, while also volunteering in other initiatives that benefit the community.

Kate is described by her nominator as passionate, hardworking, caring, and people-focused, bringing a strong commitment to everything she does.

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Jane & Ken Fenwick | Rothesay High School Boy's Hockey Team



Ken has coached the Rothesay High School boy's hockey team for nine years, building strong relationships on and off the ice while helping players develop into respectful young men. Jane Fenwick has managed the team for ten years, organizing fundraising events for causes such as the hospital, cancer research, Christmas toy drives, and raising funds for the RICC through the Battle of the Nest tournament. Together, they have had a major impact on the players, coaches, and families in Rothesay, providing guidance, support, and a welcoming environment, all while dedicating countless hours to coaching, managing, and strengthening the hockey community in Rothesay.

Described by nominators as exceptionally organized, passionate, dedicated, and caring, Ken and Jane are admired for their constant commitment, willingness to go above and beyond, and the fact that they truly care about the players and spend countless hours ensuring they have a great experience.

Stephanie Buchanan | Zoomers Exercise Program



Stephanie has volunteered for many years as the instructor for the Zoomers exercise program at the Bill McGuire Centre, leading two classes each week for seniors. She brings her ballet and dance background to the exercises, adding creative movements, flair, music, and fun while helping participants improve strength, balance, and overall wellness. Stephanie is committed not just to the program, but to each individual, knowing everyone's name, encouraging them, and adapting exercises to meet a variety of abilities. She also continues to update her skills through training and workshops, ensuring the program stays fresh, safe, and engaging. Through her leadership, Stephanie has helped local seniors come together, build friendships, and stay physically and emotionally active.

Stephanie is described by nominators as kind, caring, cheerful, patient, fun, approachable, supportive, and non-judgmental. She is knowledgeable, professional, dedicated, and always willing to go above and beyond. Stephanie makes every participant feel welcome, creates a positive and engaging environment, and inspires seniors to stay active while enjoying themselves.

Lynn Purdy | Jubilee Hall

Lynn has been a dedicated volunteer at Jubilee Hall for the past five years, initially serving tea once a week and later expanding her commitment to twice-weekly visits. She organizes and leads a monthly craft activity that residents eagerly anticipate, thoughtfully preparing examples and bringing all necessary supplies. Lynn also occasionally provides homemade treats during tea socials, enhancing the sense of community and making each visit special for residents.

Lynn is described by nominators as reliable, flexible, kind, positive, warm, and genuinely willing to assist wherever needed. Her thoughtful contributions and engaging personality make interactions meaningful and enjoyable, and her dedication has had a lasting and meaningful impact on the community at Jubilee Hall.

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Ian Britten | Royal Canadian Legion Branch 58



Ian has been a dedicated and active volunteer with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 58 and the wider community for many years. He has been actively involved in community events such as Canada Day celebrations and the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Rothesay Common. He has volunteered countless hours at the Legion assisting with Sunday brunches, cleaning, decorating, branch dinners, sports activities, youth and seniors' programs, and the annual Poppy Campaign. Ian has also served as the Branch's Entertainment Chairman, organizing events that foster community spirit, camaraderie, and a welcoming environment for members, veterans, and guests.

Ian is described by nominators as dedicated, hardworking, active, motivated, enthusiastic, positive, and a valued member of Branch 58. He demonstrates strong leadership, teamwork, and a willingness to contribute, and his ongoing service has made a meaningful and lasting impact on the Legion and the Kennebecasis Valley community.

Geoff Duplessis | KV Food Basket



Geoff has volunteered at the KV Food Basket for a number of years, working three days a week to pick up donated and rescued food from local stores, then weighing, sorting, and restocking the shelves. He has also served on the KV Food Basket Board of Directors for four years. Beyond his regular duties, Geoff is always available to assist on client days, helping distribute food to those facing food insecurity, with a focus on ensuring everyone has the food they need.

Geoff is described by his nominator as dependable, dedicated, and a great team player. He has a positive attitude, is willing to step up for any task - whether training new volunteers, fixing the computer, or moving boxes - and is recognized as a long-time, valued volunteer who contributes significantly to the KV Food Basket.

Belinda Kumar | Rothesay Elementary School



Belinda has been an active volunteer at Rothesay Elementary School for nearly 10 years, supporting initiatives such as Scholastic Book Fairs, fundraiser pick-ups, school dances, and serving on the Home and School Committee. Her most significant contribution has been coordinating the Hot Lunch Program, managing every stage of planning and execution, including researching and sourcing local food vendors, maintaining the online ordering and payment platform, and personally troubleshooting issues for families. Belinda's efforts ensure families have reliable, affordable, and nutritious meal options while also supporting local businesses, strengthening school community connections, and keeping the program running efficiently.

"Belinda is a consistently reliable support for our school staff and families, always offering timely assistance and following through on commitments." - Nominator

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Sally Ann Wagstaff | Saint David's United Church



Sally Ann has chaired the Outreach Committee at Saint David's United Church for 35 years, working tirelessly to support the community through initiatives such as clothing sales and the church's clothing room, which continues to provide free clothing for those in need. She also serves as a greeter at the facility, knits hats for the needy, and has for many years helped coordinate the Christmas baskets with local firemen. In addition, she supports the church's food box, welcomes newcomers to the community, and has encouraged others to volunteer, demonstrating a remarkable commitment to fostering community connections. Even past 90 years of age, she continues to provide care for her sibling at home, exemplifying dedication both at home and in the wider community.

Her nominator highlights Sally Ann's enthusiasm, love of people, and exceptional organizational skills, noting that she greets everyone with a smile and continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of both her family and the broader Rothesay community.

Rothesay HIVE Garden Club | Kennebecasis Valley Food Basket



Since its founding in 2022, the Rothesay HIVE Garden Club has made a meaningful and measurable impact on local food security by donating over 538 pounds of fresh, locally grown produce to the Kennebecasis Valley Food Basket. What makes this contribution especially significant is the fully volunteer-driven nature of the initiative. Each year, from their very first meeting, members make a collective decision to donate 100% of their harvest to the Kennebecasis Valley Food Basket—an extraordinary commitment that reflects their shared values of generosity and service. Their efforts help ensure that individuals and families in Rothesay have access to fresh, healthy food during the growing season—something that is often limited in food bank offerings.

"Their kindness is evident not only in their generous donations, but in the care and pride they take in growing high-quality produce for those who will receive it. Their resilience in the face of environmental challenges, combined with their consistency and teamwork, highlights a strong sense of responsibility and dedication. Above all, the group exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism—quietly making a difference, season after season, and strengthening the community through both their actions and their example."

Kennebecasis Lions Club



For more than 60 years, from their Den at the Bill McGuire Centre in Renforth, the Kennebecasis Lions have been serving their community in many ways. From Pancake Breakfasts and Lobster Takeouts to other fundraisers for many different and worthwhile causes, the Lions are always there to support citizens. If it becomes known that a citizen has a particular pressing need, the Lions are there to help in whatever way they can. Their most recent fundraiser, a Pancake Breakfast for the RICC, was a tremendous success; it was particularly nice that they involved high school students in this event, and it proved a wonderful community builder. Rothesay appreciates the many years of service to the community by the Kennebecasis Lions.

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Dale Caldwell and his dog Rufus

Dale and Rufus are seen regularly on the streets of Rothesay, picking up trash that others have left behind. They are cover different parts of Town at different times: you never know where you will see them-in all seasons and all weathers. They are one of the major reasons that less trash is seen on streets and in parks in Rothesay than is seen in other municipalities. Rothesay is very grateful for their efforts- thank you for always helping our Town look its best.



Shamim and Imran | Rothesay-Quispamsis Community Network

Shamim and Imran are relative newcomers to the Kennebecasis Valley, but they quickly became big contributors to their community. Together they started the Rothesay Quispamsis Community Network, a Facebook page that provides information and connections to the residents of the Valley. This Network has quickly become very popular, and after only a couple of years, it has more than 10,000 members. Additionally, for the last two years, they have organized a largely attended multicultural Iftar at the Bill McGuire Centre during Ramadan. Shamim has also been very active at the Saint John Newcomers Centre and has contributed significantly to the Centre's outreach to the Rothesay HIVE- the Future Engage Program.

Cindy Millican

Cindy has dedicated many years of volunteer service in Rothesay contributing her time and expertise through roles such as the Planning Advisory Committee and the Kennebecasis Public Library Board, while also volunteering at Rothesay Elementary School. Her thoughtful judgement, collaborative approach, and passion for literacy and lifelong learning have positively impacted many in our community. Her commitment to community wellbeing and her current volunteer work at RES is having a positive influence on the leaders of tomorrow.

"Cindy's dedication to her community reflects a deep commitment to strengthening Rothesay at every level - from long-term development decisions to the everyday experience of local families." - Nominator

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Congratulations!