

Celebrating the volunteers who make our city strong

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Overview

The celebrations may now be over, but the impact of volunteers in our community will continue to be felt by all Calgarians. Through these inspiring stories of real volunteers, may more people be motivated to do their part in building a healthy and caring community. Keep the chain of inspiration going.

Nominate an outstanding volunteer today for the 13th Annual Leadership Awards. www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca.

An evening of INSPIRATION

The evening of May 1, 2008 saw hundreds of Calgarians assembling in the Palomino Room at the Calgary Stampede to wine, dine, and celebrate the spirit of volunteerism.

Everyone eagerly anticipated the announcement of the recipients of the eight award categories of Volunteer Calgary's 12th Annual Leadership Awards. The Leadership Awards is a yearly event held during the National Volunteer Week, which is an opportunity to celebrate those who have become the pillars of the non-profit sector and the greater community through their work — the volunteers.

The evening kicked off with cocktails, a message from the Mayor of Calgary, and a dance number by MoMo Dance Theatre, a performance group consisting of talented individuals with mixed abilities. The awards ceremony, which was emceed by Darrel Janz, commenced shortly after dinner. As the inspiring stories dramatically unfolded on the screen, the room



The performers from Volunteer Calgary member, MoMo Dance Theatre opened the show.

was filled with admiration for this year's award recipients.

The 2008 Leadership Awards yielded a record-breaking number of nominations, the most received since its inception in 1997. In all, 149 nominations were received by Volunteer Calgary from individuals, organizations, and companies throughout the year. The vast number of nominations is not only indicative of the strong support that Volunteer Calgary enjoys from its 468 non-profit member organizations

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An Evening of INSPIRATION

Continued from front page

and the community at large, but also of the growing number of volunteers who, even as they remain in anonymity, wholeheartedly dedicate their time to a worthy cause. Calgary has truly lived up to the expectations of being “The Volunteer Capital of Canada”.

“It is encouraging to see how many nominations we have received,” says Mario Siciliano, CEO and President of Volunteer Calgary. “This tells us that organizations are using the opportunity to recognize their volunteers.”

This year the real challenge was to narrow the search and choose only one recipient in each category.

In the end the twelve award recipients were carefully chosen by eight different selection committees consisting of a mix of Volunteer Calgary staff, member organizations, and corporate sponsor representatives. These 12 finalists were celebrated at the gala evening and serve as an inspiration to us all!

The Leadership Awards may be over, but the impact of volunteers in our community will continue to be felt by all Calgarians and hopefully, more people will be motivated to do their part in building a healthy and caring community through volunteering.

Moving forward

Volunteer Calgary continues to inspire the community to contribute by bringing to life the touching stories of real and outstanding volunteers.

Mark your calendars for the 13th Annual Leadership Awards to be held on April 16, 2009.

The nominations for the awards are now ongoing. For details, visit www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca.

National Volunteer Week draws provincial recognition

At the culmination of the National Volunteer Week, Volunteer Calgary welcomed Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach and Minister of Culture and Community Spirit Lindsay Blackett to its Volunteer Way (formerly Centre St.) office for a press conference on May 2, 2008.

The two honored guests had come to express their support and recognition to the dedication of all the volunteers in Calgary. Minister Blackett briefly discussed the Community Spirit Program, which encourages donations from Albertans to Alberta-based organizations with financial incentives for donors. For more details, visit www.communityspiritprogram.ca.

Mario Siciliano, CEO and President of Volunteer Calgary, presented each of the guests with a token of appreciation — a framed photo montage of Shasta daisies, the national flower of volunteerism.



Alberta Premier
Ed Stelmach



And the winners are...

Heart of Calgary Award



Heart of Calgary Award recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding lifetime contribution to the Calgary community.

"The Heart of Calgary Award recognizes lifetime achievements of outstanding volunteers. ConocoPhillips is so proud to be a part of recognizing those individuals," Barbara Simic, Manager of Community Investment at ConocoPhillips.

For more than 40 years, **Steve Allan** has given selflessly to a wide variety of community organizations such as the Calgary Foundation, McMahon Stadium Society, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Calgary Stampeders Football Club, Calgary Rotary Club, and the Calgary Committee to End Homelessness.

One of his most notable volunteer involvements is with the Calgary Exhibition & Stampede where he served as Chairman of the Board and President. As such, he has successfully led the Stampede's efforts to reconnect with the community, business, government, and civic agencies. What the Calgary Exhibition & Stampede becomes over the next decade will be directly influenced by Steve's leadership and collaboration. His ability to inspire others is evident in his work at the Stampede where staff and volunteers of the organization work and live by the ideals of western heritage and values in one of Canada's most vibrant cities.



(L-R) Pictured here is Barbara Simic, Manager of Community Investment, ConocoPhillips, Steve Allan (center), recipient of 2008 Heart of Calgary Award, and Kevin Meyers, President of ConocoPhillips Canada.

In all aspects of his life, Allan has demonstrated a remarkable ability to balance his commitments to his family, profession, and the community. The ability to understand and care for both individuals and communities is one of Steve's strongest qualities.

"I've always believed one has to give back to the community. I've been able to balance it and I've enjoyed every minute of it. I'm lucky to have the opportunity to do the things I've done," says Allan.

“ Do not wait for leaders do it alone, person to person. ”
Mother Teresa



Volunteers Connecting Community

A quarterly publication of Volunteer Calgary

Volunteer Calgary's mission is to engage more people, more effectively, to volunteer in the community. In keeping with our goal, this newsletter serves as an information tool for the many individuals and organizations active within our community's voluntary sector.

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Leaders of Tomorrow Awards



Leaders of Tomorrow Awards recognizes three youths who make a difference through their volunteer activities in the levels of elementary, junior high and senior high.

"We are proud to support the Leaders of Tomorrow because the youth really are the future of our communities. It is inspiring to hear the stories of the great things that youth are doing in our community," says Rod Garrossino, Community Investment Advisor at Encana.

Emily Lundy

No one is ever too young to make a difference. Emily Lundy may only be a 4th Grader, but she already exhibits the qualities of a strong leader by being very much involved in helping others.

Lundy volunteered to take on the role of Bullying and Mentoring Advisor for the Adventurers, an after school care program. She assists with the care of younger kids, helps them learn to read, and promotes bully awareness and prevention. "Right now we are bully-free! What she has done is amazing. This young lady is a future community leader," says Diane McKean, President of Adventurers Before and After School Care Program.

She is also on the planning team for a project called Adopt-A-Family for Christmas. Every year, they raise money, collect food and have a fun family night for two lucky chosen families. Lundy not only helps with the planning of different activities to raise funds, but she encourages younger kids to be involved, too.



(L-R) Rod Garrossino, Encana Community Investment Advisor, future leaders Emily Lundy, Jane Wu, and Sahar Ibrahim, and Jane Skeans, Coordinator, Educational Initiatives of Encana.

"Volunteering is very good, you feel awesome, it makes other people feel good, and people around you are happy for you," says Lundy.

"Volunteering gives me confidence that I can change other peoples' lives, instead of just standing there and watching TV."

She truly is a role model to people, both young and old.

Sahar Ibrahim

Volunteering since she was seven, Sahar Ibrahim has developed a strong passion for making a positive difference in the lives of those around her. Ibrahim's diverse choice of activities reflects such passion.

"I really love volunteering because I love interacting with people," says Ibrahim.

She has helped raise nearly \$9,000 for tsunami relief in South East Asia, collect funds for the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank, volunteers to teach struggling readers with the

Calgary Public Library's Reading Buddies Program, leads junior members of Ismaili Volunteer Corps in the day-to-day maintenance of the community centre.

"Sahar is a wonderful volunteer," says Azmin Poonja, her nominator and Volunteer Resources Manager at the Calgary Public Library. "In the last year, Sahar has helped out with three different programs."

Ibrahim demonstrates leadership qualities and a strong sense of compassion that is simply astonishing for someone her age. "If I could encourage others to volunteer, I would tell them how rewarding the experience is just seeing the smiles on peoples' faces," Ibrahim says.

There is only so much that a girl in Junior High can take on, but Ibrahim's record of leadership and achievement is brimming with promise.

Leadership in Volunteer Management Award

Jane Wu

Jane Wu's extensive involvement with various aspects of the community makes her stand out among her peers. She is a member of the Youth Volunteer Corps with Child and Youth Friendly Calgary, United Way Youth Traxx Committee, and Junior Achievement, among others.

"Volunteering is basically my life," Wu declares.

In 2007, she led a team of 24 youths as they organized the first ever Beauty and Brains Conference at the Telus World of Science in Calgary where 88 young girls were enlightened about career opportunities in male-dominated fields. The success of the inaugural event has interested several sponsors and is destined to become an annual session.

"Jane has a real passion for volunteering and really wants to make a difference in the community," according to Ros Doi, Program Coordinator at Child and Youth Friendly Calgary, which had supported Wu's pilot project.

You would think that a Senior High student already has a lot on her plate —Speech club, hockey, plays oboe in the band, graduation committee — but to Wu getting involved in the community is one of the top priorities.

"I'm a strong believer that if you love something, you're going to figure out how to do it," says Wu.

Jane Wu exhibits leadership abilities and a strong determination to excel in her mission to contribute to society. She is truly an inspiration to youth in the community.

Leadership in Volunteer Management Award recognizes a Volunteer Manager who demonstrates excellence in leadership within one of Volunteer Calgary's member organizations.

"Suncor's really proud to sponsor this award. We feel that the managers of volunteers play a critical role in our community and in organizations which requires a lot of innovation and strength and personal leadership," says Lori Gammel, Senior Community Investment Advisor of Suncor Energy Inc.

Brenda Couture has devoted most of her adult life to volunteering and service. She has taken on many roles in various organizations — including serving as a board member of Volunteer Calgary, Volunteer Coordinator at the Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary General Hospital, and the Calgary Stampede — and does so with unwavering commitment.

Couture is a skilled practitioner in all aspects of volunteer management and has created successful models for numerous volunteer programs. Her dedication and leadership are clearly exhibited in her effective management of over 2,000 volunteers at the Calgary Stampede for the last five years. She is an excellent communicator and excels in personal relationship building with valued volunteers. Her daily efforts result in proud volunteers who work hard toward the success of building the Calgary Stampede as a world-class gathering place for all Calgarians.

"My philosophy is that volunteers don't technically need to be managed, they just need to be supported and given the resources needed to do their job effectively," Couture says.

She is passionate about volunteerism and her drive and enthusiasm motivate volunteers to express the same through their work.

"I love working with volunteers. They inspire me everyday. They are an amazing group of people to work with," says Couture.

Couture is truly an exceptional leader who "walks the talk" and leads by example.



(L-R) Cathy Glover, Manager, Suncor Energy Foundation, Brenda Couture, and Lori Gammel, Senior Community Investment Advisor, Suncor Energy Inc.

Leader in Community Award



Leader in Community Award recognizes a non-profit organization that has developed an innovative program or event that engages volunteers in creative ways to advance their mission and contribution to the community.

“Enbridge continues to be a proud sponsor of the Leader in Community award because it really fits within our corporate values and our community investment giving,” says Stephanie Pollock, Senior Manager, Community Partnerships & Investment at Enbridge Inc.

The Canadian Institute for the Blind’s (CNIB) Fragrant Garden is a fully accessible, barrier-free outdoor garden environment bursting with colour, texture and fragrance. It features flora that have been carefully selected for their striking colours and aromas in a visitor-friendly setting adorned with design elements sensitive to the needs of people who are visually impaired, have mobility problems or other disabilities.



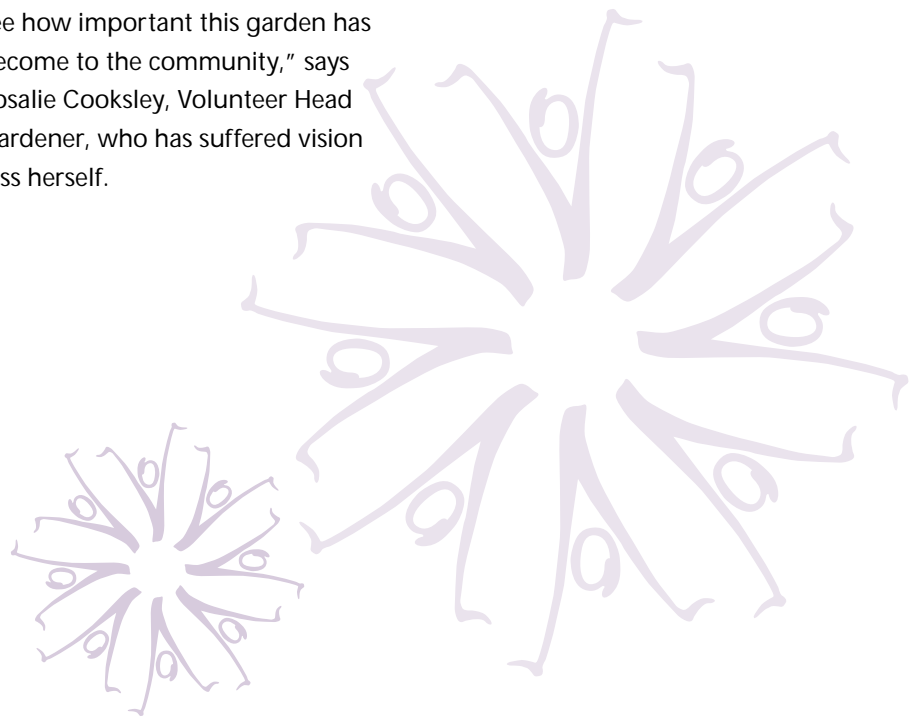
Cathy McFee Director of Services & Operation of CNIB and Rosalie Cooksley, Volunteer Head Gardener.

“Nature does something to people. It seems to soothe people and gives them strength. It’s very touching to see how important this garden has become to the community,” says Rosalie Cooksley, Volunteer Head Gardener, who has suffered vision loss herself.

Built in 1999, with the aid of the City of Calgary, the garden is a therapeutic haven enjoyed by people from all walks of life. Its existence, however, would not have been possible without the generosity of countless donors and the tireless devotion of the volunteers who keep the garden looking and smelling vibrant.

“The volunteers are critical to maintaining this garden. If we didn’t have their support, the garden wouldn’t be in the kind of shape that it’s in,” says Cathy McFee, Director of Services & Operations, CNIB.

The CNIB Fragrant Garden truly is a symbol of the many beautiful things that a community working together can achieve.



“ The best leaders of all, the people know not they exist. They turn to each other and say, we did it ourselves. ”
Zen Proverb

Volunteer Family Award



Volunteer Family Award recognizes a family that volunteers together as a team, inspiring one another to become lifelong volunteers.

“The Volunteer Family Award is very important because it helps children to understand the importance of volunteerism,” says Marilyn Milavsky, Volunteer Co-Chair, Telus Community Board.

For 26 years, the **Bannerman and Clark families** have strived to make Christmastime a little bit brighter for Calgary’s less fortunate citizens. Three generations of both families have worked hand-in-hand to prepare for what has become an annual tradition of Christmas Dinner over at the Mustard Seed.

“Along with the food and the gifts, it’s the company and the sense of family that the Bannerman-Clark [families] bring to Christmas Day here,” says Diana Schwenk, Managing Director of the Mustard Seed.

Months before Christmas even rolls along, they work tirelessly getting donations, buying food, shopping for gifts for young and old, and recruiting volunteers. In preparation for the actual dinner, they spend hours in The Seed’s kitchen the week



before preparing the food and getting everything organized. Over the years, this tradition has grown exponentially and the last dinner had served over 1,400 people with the help of 480 volunteers.

“We have people still coming 26 years later that came to the original one. They come in, bring us presents. We’re their family,” says Del Bannerman.

Three generations of the Bannerman and Clark Families

If families truly are the building blocks of society, then Calgarians are truly blessed to have kindred spirits like the Bannerman and Clark families in their midst.

“ If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader. ”
John Quincy Adams



Leaders in Business Awards



Leaders in Business Awards recognizes three businesses that demonstrate leadership and innovation in workplace volunteerism. The recipients are Suitcase Interactive, Convergent Technologies and Stikeman Elliott LLP in the categories of small, medium and large business respectively.

“Chevron’s mission statement is to be the global energy leader in people, partnerships and performance. The Leaders in Business Award reflects these elements and Chevron’s corporate values such as diversity, integrity and ingenuity,” says Marlene Mulligan, Public Relations Coordinator at Chevron.



Suitcase Interactive
(L-R) Trent Martens (Executive Creative Director), Joel Goldberg (Strategy Director), and Ryan Gill (CEO).

Suitcase Interactive believes that a successful business is built on more than just skills and talent, but on healthy relationships. They not only strive to build strong ties among its employees, but also with the rest of the community — locally and beyond. They do this by helping out those who are in need.

This dynamic lot is certainly not afraid to get out there and get their hands dirty all in the name of serving others. They serve meals twice a month at the Mustard Seed downtown. They lend a hand every month at the Ronald McDonald House. They raise funds and fly all the way to Mexico yearly to help impoverished communities for

Project Smile. They have even helped build community bathrooms in Mexico! “It’s something that we didn’t get into to be recognized for that type of work, but if this can be used as an encouragement for other companies to get out there and do a similar thing, I think that would be a great outcome,” says Trent Martens, Creative Director. For a small office of 20 people, Suitcase Interactive has proven that they can indeed make a big difference.

One of the values of **Convergent Technologies** is “we believe in balanced lives”.

They have designated June 18th as Convergent Social Responsibility Day which has been celebrated yearly through volunteer work with various organizations. For the last three years, they have found a way to put their technology expertise to good use by installing security systems at the Hull Child and Family Services facilities.

The Convergent technical team diligently brought in security cameras



Convergent Technologies
(Top L-R) Convergent CEO Dan Mocerri, VP of Canadian Operations Al Trepanier with (Bottom L-R) Kim Davies and Lou Zaganelli of Hull Child & Family Services

and intercom systems to address the children’s safety issues, while the non-technical staff formed a gardening crew and brightened up grounds.

“They set a great example for the rest of the community showing how you can bring in your specialized gifts and talents to help other people in need,” says Kim Davies, Caring Community Based Specialist with Hull.

The team is genuinely happy to contribute and this is seen as they continuously support various activities at Hull. They also help out with Christmas Hampers, the No Place Like Home Program to beautify the residences and the Annual Golf Tournament, which is a big fundraiser for Hull. “It’s a great thing for a team to get involved in something bigger than what they do on a day-to-day basis,” says Peter Brown, Business Development Manager. “It lets us focus on something other than ourselves and business and being profitable.” The Convergent team demonstrates that sometimes you can still mix business with pleasure and make a positive difference.

Stikeman Elliott LLP not only strives to provide exceptional services in its field, but also to do its part as a responsible constituent of the community. The company promotes a sense of civic responsibility among its employees through community-focused initiatives as part of their Sponsorship and Community Involvement Program.

The Seeing Is Believing initiative allows employees to participate regularly in pre-arranged volunteer

work with various organizations in Calgary throughout the year such as Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids, Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), among many others. "We don't focus on any one organization in particular, but we try and get out there and help wherever we can," says Bill Hopkins, Office Manager at Stikeman Elliott.



Stikeman Elliott LLP
 (L-R) James Bates, Chevron VP, Assets, Lou Cusano, Stikeman Elliott LLP, Managing Partner in Calgary, and Marlene Mulligan, PR Coordinator of Chevron.

The Active Board Involvement initiative encourages firm members to serve on boards of different organizations. In addition to this, it has been involved in several fundraisers each year and has showed support by giving time and money. When it gives back to the community, Stikeman Elliott strengthens the bond among its workforce and creates satisfaction beyond work.

"It's really easy to just write that check, but Stikeman Elliott really believes that it's important to go out and participate in the community and really get involved," says Michelle Isaacson, Business Development Manager at Stikeman Elliott. If its employees' dedication to volunteering is a direct reflection of the values of the firm, then Stikeman Elliott LLP can boast of greatness not only in number.

Volunteer in Profile Award



Volunteer in Profile Award recognizes a volunteer's commitment to a Volunteer Calgary member organization in the previous year. It is an extension of Volunteer Calgary's partnership with CTV which features volunteer profiles monthly.



Jack Pidgeon, proud to be of service to cancer patients.

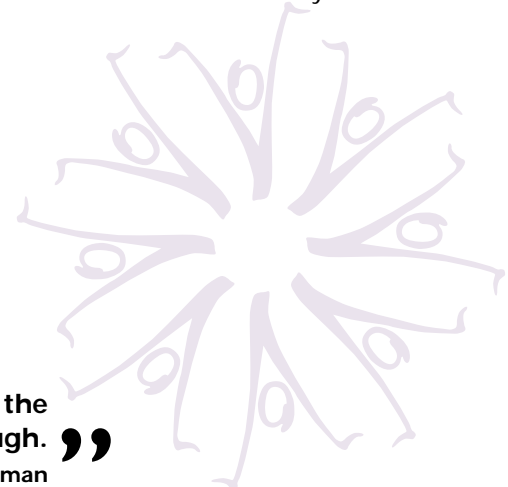
"CTV and Volunteer Calgary have a partnership that goes back a long way. Since the beginning, our goal was to show off the best assets in the city and that's our volunteers," says Pearl Tsang, CTV.

Jack Pidgeon not only drives cancer patients to and from their medical appointments, but he drives with a passion. He has been shuttling patients almost every day and never tires of lending a hand when extra assistance is needed.

In the last two years, Jack Pidgeon has driven a total of 1339 hours, 16,539 kilometers and 354 trips. The total number of patients he has assisted? Innumerable.

Without Pidgeon's valuable service, cancer patients would have to go through the hassles of commuting to get to treatment. Pidgeon also devotes time to recruiting and training new drivers at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre. Pidgeon goes the extra mile to help out, and is actually grateful for the opportunity.

"It gives me a lot of satisfaction. The association I have with the volunteers in the Cancer Society and the driver program is really valuable to me," says Pidgeon. Pidgeon is a true hero to the people he has helped out and a shining example of volunteerism to the rest of the community.



“ You really can change the world if you care enough. ”
 Marion Wright Edelman

Nominees & Nominators

Leadership in Volunteer Management

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
Janeth Alonso	Calgary Immigrant Women' Association
Kim Arnason	Momentum
Tina Barzo	Madalena Pinto
Margaret Blackburn	The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
Leanne Burke	Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary & Area
Sharlene Coulter	Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary & Area
Colleen Ferguson	Calgary Reads Society
Donna Krees	Hull Child and Family Services
Howard McGiffin	Canadian Mental Health Association
Azmin Poonja	Calgary Public Library
Talia Potter	Calgary Folk Music Festival
Annastasia Sommer	Calgary Seniors' Resource Society

Leaders of Tomorrow

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
Amanda Achtman	Bishop Carroll High School
Benedicta Antepim	Forest Lawn High School
Simon Atem	Father Lacombe High School
Janelle Beaven	LINKages Society of Calgary
Piper Bernbaum	LINKages Society of Calgary
Paes Braden	St Brigid School
Dirk Chisholm	Branton School
Edward Choi	Sir Winston Churchill High School
Richelle Christie	Lord Beaverbrook High School
Axel Cuellar	Catholic Family Service
John Dongworth	Calgary Fire Dept., Fire Cadet Programs
Amanda Hamilton	Bishop O'Byrne High School
Jaimey Hintz	St. Bede School
Kevin Huie	Alice Huie
Michelle Huie	Alice Huie
Angelika Kierzak	St. Francis High School
Thomas Kot	Scouts Canada
Shannon Lynch	LINKages Society of Calgary
Shannon McAvoy	Ecole St. Matthew
Erin Madro	Queen Elizabeth High School
Samantha McWillis	Youths Can Fish 2
Meghan Mismas	Westmount Charter School
Narges Palani	Forest Lawn High School
Laura Parker	Lord Beaverbrook High School
Amy Parks	Lord Beaverbrook High School

Chelcia Petersen	YouthInk Magazine
Haleigh Petersen	YouthInk Magazine
Maxine Saretsky	Veronica Saretsky
Adam Schwarz	Centennial High School
Ilena Simpson-Pineda	St. Bede School
Amanda Soulsby	Bowness High School
Students 4 Change	Habitat for Humanity Calgary
Alexandra Swiston	Calgary Catholic School District
Teen Mentors	Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary & Area
Jackson Tse	LINKages Society of Calgary
Shannon Turner	MEOW Foundation
Natasha Wilson	Lord Beaverbrook High School

Leaders in Business

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
ARC Financial Corp.	ARC Financial Corp.
ARC Resources	Calgary Inter-Faith Food Bank
BMO Employee Charitable Foundation	BMO Fountain of Hope, Prairies Division
Canadian Pacific	Canadian Pacific
First Calgary Savings	EPCOR Centre for the Performance Arts
GE Volunteers, Calgary	GE Capital Solutions
Imperial Oil Limited	Imperial Oil Limited
Newpark Drilling Fluids	The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
Petro-Canada Inc.	The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
Touchworks Communications Inc.	Deaf & Hard of Hearing Society
UrbanVibe Pet Photography	Calgary Humane Society

Leader in Community

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
AntiVirus Day Event, Centre Point	Sexual Health Access Alberta
Calgary Commuter Challenge	Calgary Commuter Challenge
Calgary Corporate Challenge	Calgary Corporate Challenge
Cancervive	Wellspring Calgary
Community Meal Program	The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
ComputAbility	The Ability Society
DonorTrust, Christmas Future	Western Management Consultants

The Forget Me Not Ball Alzheimer Society	Alzheimer Society Calgary
Fort Calgary's RCMP Veterans' Volunteer Program	Fort Calgary
Friend 2 Friend	Autism Calgary Association
FunnyFest Calgary Comedy Festival Society	Blue Mountain Signs
Golden Girls	The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
Jamie's Preschool Society	Jackie Mileham
Pet Access League Society (PALS)	First Calgary Savings
Relay for Life, Canadian Canadian Cancer	Canadian Cancer Society
Seniors' Social Link- Shuttle Expansion	Calgary Seniors' Resource Society
Taking Back the Streets	The City of Calgary, Community & Neighbourhood Services & Parks Division
Toastmasters, Youth Program	Toastmasters District 42
Volunteer Driver Program, Canadian Cancer Society	Canadian Cancer Society
Volunteer/Senior Skaters, Optimist/George Blunden Arena	Optimist Park Senior Skaters
Young Adults Connecting With Seniors (YACS)	Young Adults Program, LINKages Society of Calgary

Volunteer Family

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
Katrina, Kyra and Isabel Bradley	University of Calgary
Jennifer, Amanda, Samantha and Dennis Brown	The Friends of Fish Creek
Can Change Cousins Harris, Euan, Heath and Fraser Miller, Campbell Andrews, Grayson Fraser, Camryn, Maxwell and Olivia Lettich, Ethan and Will Glenn	Scenic Acres Community Association
Pat, Rick, Laura and Katherine Istead	The Calgary Zoo
Scott Lazenby, Debra Cummings, Siobhan and Quinn	Operation Eyesight Universal
Alykhan, Afroza, Aadam and Alia Nanji	Gera Medical Clinic
Jeff, Coralle, Ashlie, and Candice Moldon	Brookfield Properties

Volunteer In Profile

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
Caylan Boyse	Caylan Boyse Foundation for Spinal Cord Injury Support
Ina Coleman	CBE – Chinook Learning Services
Patricia Coull	Girl Guides of Canada – Calgary Area
Heather MacEwan Foran	Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation
Jacqueline Forest	MEOW Foundation
Sister Gisele LaBonte	L'Arche Association of Calgary
Laura MacIntosh	The Hera Society
Carol Rome	Hospice Calgary Society
Angela Velichka	Calgary Public Library
Shri Venkatesen	Canadian Red Cross
James Walls	Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Volunteer Animal

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominator and Organization</i>
Bandana, 8 year old Yellow Labrador Guide Dog	Margaret Blackburn, The Salvation Army Community Services Calgary
Berkley, 2 year old Heeler/Border/Collie/ Surprise	Cindy Samoil, Pet Access League Society (PALS)
Brutus Beefcake	Marcy Kimura, Ferret Rescue & Education Society (FRES)
Indy, 2 year old Collie/German Shepherd	Tara Wingenbach, Animal Rescue Foundation
Joey, 7 year old Boston Terrier	Jodi Martin, Pet Access League Society (PALS)
Laddie, Border Collie	Sarah Hughes, STARS (Search & Rescue Dog)
Lola, 4 year old Great Pyrenees	Shannon Boyd, Pet Access League Society (PALS)
Marigold, 5 year old skunk	Monica Kovacs, Alberta Institution for Wildlife Conservation
Mojo, 12 1/2 year old black & white cat	Kris Niwa, Pet Access League Society (PALS)
Sawyer, 4 year old Rottweiler, Pet Access League Society and Southern Alberta Rottweiler Rescue	Alison Archambault, First Calgary Savings
Simba, 8 year old Golden Retriever/Labrador	Susan Deike, Alberta Guide Dog Services

Leadership in Volunteer Animal Award

Volunteer Animal Award recognizes an animal that demonstrates the spirit of volunteerism and serves as a reminder to us that volunteering can occur in various forms.

Missy, a King Charles spaniel, is not your ordinary little cute and cuddly dog. Although she is all of that, she also volunteers regularly at the Agape Hospice where she brings in a ray of sunshine with each visit. In her own little way, she contributes by offering unconditional love and acceptance to individuals in need. The residents of the hospice are in the final journey of life, and Missy's presence gives them a sense of comfort, security and lends a warm feeling of "home".

"Missy's role as a volunteer is crucial. She brings something to the hospice that nobody else brings," says Missy's owner.

Missy has not only touched the lives of residents of the hospice, but to her proud owner, she has been literally nothing short of a lifesaver. Missy has the special ability of sensing the onset of a seizure and is able to warn her owner promptly before it happens. Missy's usually calm exterior shifts into panic and discomfort which tells her owner to prepare and get to a safe place. Missy serves as a reminder that everyone can do their little bit to make a difference and all it takes is a whole lot of heart.



A surprise visit from Missy brings smiles to Mario Siciliano, President & CEO of Volunteer Calgary and all the staff members.

“ Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. ”
William James

Last but not least...

The success of the Annual Leadership Awards can be attributed mostly to the longstanding partnerships with Volunteer Calgary's sponsors.

Suncor Energy Inc. continues to be the presenting sponsor as well as one of the awards sponsors.

Awards sponsors are Enbridge Inc, Encana Corporation, Chevron Canada Limited, ConocoPhillips, Telus, and CTV.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Volunteer Calgary also wishes to thank...

Banquet Sponsor:



Media Sponsors:



CALGARY HERALD

Promotions Sponsor:



To view the videos of the award winners, visit www.volunteercalgary.ab.ca/programs/leadership_awards.html
Mark your calendars for the 13th Annual Leadership Awards on April 16, 2009.