



PRESS RELEASE

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**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
ANNOUNCES 2016 VOLUNTEER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

ST. JOHN'S, NL - The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador announced today that six of the province's most outstanding volunteers will take their place in the Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame for 2016. The inductees will be honoured at a gala celebration on November 5th in St. John's, NL.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame was launched in 2012 by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award with the goal of honouring, documenting and recognizing the significant efforts of those in the community who have made long-standing volunteer efforts. The event is not only a tribute for the inductees; it also raises much needed funds to support The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Award program is the world's leading youth achievement award, and helps equip young people for life and work through a series of challenges and personal goals.

The inductees for 2016 are: The Royal St. John's Regatta Committee, Patrick Hayward of St. John's, Rosemary Marshall of St. John's, Eli Bishop of Pollard's Point, Margaret Stead of St. John's and Patricia Suvak of Conception Bay South.

Volunteers who will be inducted in this year's class combine for more than 400 years of volunteer activity, serving local, provincial, national and international causes, demonstrating the dedication and long-standing service of individuals throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. "The Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame aims to enshrine the achievements of both individuals and organizations that have set the standards for selfless giving without reward or gain, for all to see," said the Honourable Edward Roberts, Chair of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee, "The Volunteer Hall of Fame also aligns perfectly with the mission of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award; providing youth with an opportunity to see the gold standard in volunteering and giving. It is our privilege to honour such remarkable individuals and organizations in our province."

More information about the upcoming gala and the Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame can be found at www.volunteerhalloffame.ca. Biographies for each of the 2016 inductees are contained in the backgrounder below.

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BACKGROUNDER**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD**

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award equips young people for life and work. It is the world's leading youth achievement award. The Award is a non-competitive program which empowers young people, ages 14 to 24, to make a difference in their own lives and the lives of others, by exploring their potential, taking on new challenges, giving back to their communities, and achieving success. It provides the opportunity to set goals and achieve results in fun and challenging ways. The Award is accessible to all youth, regardless of socioeconomic status, ability, ethnicity, or gender. The Award is unique in that you do not WIN it, you EARN it!

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award was founded by His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in 1956 in the United Kingdom, was started in Canada in 1963 and began in Newfoundland and Labrador in 1974. For more information please visit www.dukeofed.org

ABOUT THE VOLUNTEER HALL OF FAME

The Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame was launched in 2012 by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador with the primary goal of honoring, documenting and recognizing the significant efforts of those in our province who have made long-standing volunteer efforts.

This special gala event is not only a tribute for the inductees; it also raises much needed funds to support The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2016, the Volunteer Hall of Fame will celebrate its 5th Anniversary, and has celebrated the achievement of more than thirty outstanding volunteers from across Newfoundland and Labrador.

2016 VOLUNTEER HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**The Royal St. John's Regatta Committee, St. John's**

It is North America's oldest annual sporting event, rich in history and tradition. People from all ages come from all corners of the map to take in the excitement of the Royal St. John's Regatta. But, behind the scenes, a team of tireless volunteers is responsible for each and every detail of the event which

attracts more than 50,000 visitors each year. For 198 years, volunteers have given their time and talent to ensuring not only the success of the Regatta, but the sport of rowing in Newfoundland and Labrador. Through the development of learn to row programs, events such as the Indoor Rowing Challenge in partnership with the Canadian Forces, and the planning of a new Fall Regatta, volunteers are contributing to the development of sport, increasing community engagement and growing opportunities for physical activity amongst the population. For their 198-year-old untiring commitment to sport and social development in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Royal St. John's Regatta Committee has earned their place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Patrick Hayward, St. John's

Patrick Hayward has given more than 50 years of his life to volunteerism. Whether it be to his province, his community, his church, youth, or those less fortunate, Mr. Hayward has always been there to lend a hand. Mr. Hayward volunteers with organizations such as the provincial and national Scouting movement, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Hayward also finds time to actively volunteer with his church parish, serving on the Finance Committee and the Parish Outreach Committee, and with various other non-profit and charitable organizations. Mr. Hayward has also been recognized by Canadian Blood Services for his long-time status as a blood donor and was honoured as Family of the Year for the NL Knights of Columbus in 2013-2014. For his long-serving, selfless volunteer work and dedication to his community, Patrick Hayward has earned his place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Eli Bishop, Pollard's Point

Eli Bishop has been a volunteer in his small community of Pollard's Point for more than 50 years. A retired teacher, Mr. Bishop has dedicated his volunteer time to facilitating, promoting and sustaining a strategy to bring sustainable development in rural areas of the West Coast of Newfoundland. A member of the Community Business Development Corporation Board of Directors for more than 30 years, Mr. Bishop has supported the growth and development of local business in the region. He also the founded the White Bay South Development Association in 1975, serves on the White Bay South Waste Management Committee and is also engaged with a number of other community organizations including the Evening Breeze 50+ Club, the Humber Winterland Snowmobile Club, the Community Advisory Council for Western Health, the Humber Economics Development Board, the NLTA and the Sop's Arm Pollard's Point Recreation Committee, among others. As a founder of the Community Career Assessment Centre, Mr. Bishop has provided career guidance for youth and employment opportunities for all. For his dedication to his community and region, and for his tireless efforts to put his skills and knowledge towards the betterment of our province, Eli Bishop has earned his place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Rosemary Marshall, St. John's

Rosemary Marshall began volunteering in 1970 when she became what is believed to be the first female minor hockey coach in Newfoundland and Labrador. This was just the beginning for Ms. Marshall, who

went on to serve as assistant registrar and then chairperson of the St. John's Minor Hockey system. She also took on roles with the Avalon Arena Association and was the venue manager for Ladies Field Hockey during the 1977 Canada Summer Games. She then went on to serve on the NL mission staff for the 1987 Canada Winter Games. Ms. Marshall has also contributed significantly to the NL Sports Federation (now known as Sport NL) where she served as a member of the Board of Directors and, in 1983, as the first female president in the organization's history. Ms. Marshall has been a prominent volunteer in the development and growth of sport in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, earning her a 125th Anniversary of Canadian Federation Medal and a honorary life membership in the NL Sports Federation (Sport NL) along with the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association's Outstanding Minor Hockey Award in 1976. For these selfless volunteer contributions and dedication to advancement of sport in her province, Rosemary Marshall has earned her place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Margie Stead, St. John's

Margie Stead is an inspiring member of her community and life-long volunteer. She has made an impact on people from all walks of life and of all ages. Even as a young girl, Ms. Stead has been an active volunteer, giving of her time to her school and her church. Ms. Stead is a long-time volunteer with Al-Anon, spending decades of her life supporting local families. Ms. Stead is also an active member of the MS Society of Canada and volunteers with the Corpus Christi Church. Ms. Stead gives generously of her time to help others in need and non-profit organizations who work to raise funds to support their community, including Matthew 25 Outreach, a local non-profit organization which provides support to a school and orphanage in Kenya, spreading her giving spirit not just locally but around the world. Ms. Stead is known for her ability to inspire others to volunteer and give back, recruiting new members for the organizations she supports and growing the circle of caring and giving individuals in her community. She is a leader, an advocate and a mentor. For her tremendous service to her community, province and indeed the far reaches of the world, Margie Stead has earned her place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.

Patricia Suvak, Conception Bay South

Patricia (Trish) Suvak has been a dedicated, community minded volunteer for more than 40 years. Her greatest service has been to those who are blind or partially sighted in Newfoundland and Labrador. A retired itinerant teacher, Ms. Suvak has been working with CNIB since 1975. She began her volunteer work with CNIB by taking the Adult Basic Education program used by the Department of Education and adapting it for people with vision loss by translating materials into either Braille or large print. Ms. Suvak was a tireless advocate for blind and partially sighted children as they transitioned into NL public school system, helping to change attitudes about the abilities of people with vision loss and improving the quality of life for her students and the general population of CNIB clients. Ms. Suvak continues to serve as a volunteer with CNIB, both provincially and nationally. Ms. Suvak has made a profound impact on hundreds of individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador who are blind or partially sighted, and her work has been valued and respected across the country. For her determination, commitment to the youth of her province, and tireless advocacy work for those who are blind or partially sighted, Patricia Suvak has earned a place in the Volunteer Hall of Fame in 2016.