



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD NL NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2016 NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR VOLUNTEER HALL OF FAME

ST. JOHN'S, NL – The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador announced today that nominations are now open for the 2016 Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame Awards.

The Volunteer Hall of Fame was launched in 2012 by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador with the goal of honouring, documenting and recognizing the significant efforts of those in our community who have made long-standing volunteer efforts. Each year, inductees are honoured at a gala celebrating their extraordinary volunteer achievements. This gala event not only serves to honour some of our province's most outstanding volunteers, but also raises much needed funds to support The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program in Newfoundland and Labrador.

"The Volunteer Hall of Fame is a great initiative," says Charlie Stacey, Chair of the Volunteer Hall of Fame, "Not only does it serve to recognize the tremendous amount of volunteer work that individuals and organizations are doing in our province, but it also makes an important connection for the youth in The Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards program. They get to see inspiring examples of community spirit and giving, which is something we hope they will acquire through their participation in The Award program."

The Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame will be accepting nominations from **April 12 to June 6, 2016**. Following the close of nominations, applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and inductees for 2016 will be announced in September.

"Volunteers make an enormous difference in the lives of so many people in our community each and every day," says The Honourable Edward Roberts, Chair of the Volunteer Hall of Fame Selection Committee. "The Newfoundland and Labrador Volunteer Hall of Fame proudly acknowledges exceptional individuals each year who are outstanding examples of community spirit and selfless giving."

Information regarding the nomination process, selection criteria and past inductees of The Volunteer Hall of Fame can be found at www.volunteerhalloffame.ca or by contacting The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award office at 709-753-0423.



Media contact:

Amy Penney

Development Manager

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland & Labrador

709-753-0423

apenney@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. It also raises much needed funds to support The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program in Newfoundland and Labrador. As a registered charity, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador relies on the generous support of community and government partners, corporate and individual donors and event sponsors to ensure the success of The Award program in the province.

Each year, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Newfoundland and Labrador issues a public call for nominations for the Volunteer Hall of Fame, with a deadline for the acceptance of annual nominations. Following the invitation for nominations, the Selection Committee will convene and commence the selection process, and inductees are honoured at a gala award celebration.

Members of the 2016 Selection Committee include The Honourable Edward Roberts, CM, ONL, QC, Susan Green, ONL and Charles Stacey, CMA.

ABOUT THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award the world's leading youth achievement award. It is a non-competitive program that empowers young people, ages 14-24, 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 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 Award was founded by His Royal Highness The Prince Phillip, 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