



AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL

RFD# 2023032

Date: March 27, 2023

TO: Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

SUBMITTED BY: Sharon Bristol Director, Community Living

DATE: March 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Provincial Volunteer Award - Nominations

ORIGIN: Provincial Volunteer Week.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Municipal Government Act Section 47.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council nominate Doris Walton as the Amherst Volunteer of the Year, and Oskar Sigtryggsson as the Youth Volunteer of the Year to be recognized at the Nova Scotia Ceremony.

BACKGROUND: The Province of Nova Scotia celebrates volunteers nominated by organizations and communities at the annual Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony. This year's event will take place on September 25, 2023, where the premier, lieutenant-governor and minister of the volunteer sector will present awards to volunteer representatives from each municipality.

In February 2023, the Town of Amherst made a public call for nominations of volunteers who deserve special recognition. All nominated individuals will be recognized in person at an event hosted in Amherst on April 18, 2023. Details on the Amherst Volunteer Reception will be announced at a later date. From the nominations received, the Town of Amherst is eligible to submit a name for a Provincial Volunteer Award Category, Family and Youth Volunteer of the year, who will be recognized at the Nova Scotia Ceremony. Nominations were received for Adult and Youth Volunteer. No applications were received in the family category.

DISCUSSION: 44 applications were received. Staff reviewed the applications, scored them using criteria for years of service and community impact. The top 4 nominations by staff for Volunteer of the Year are:

Darrell Cole 20+ years of service in Rotary and Bantam Baseball
Doris Walton 10+ years of service creating and operating the After the School Bell Program
Laura Farrow 10+ years volunteering for Amherst/Parrsboro Skating Club, YMCA of Cumberland and the Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life
Michelle McKay MacIntyre 20+ years service to CARMA and countless animals rescued in Cumberland County.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The event to celebrate Amherst Volunteers is anticipated to cost \$1000 including cost for travel for the Amherst Volunteer of the Year to attend the Awards Ceremony in September.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: There will be a Town of Amherst event in April to recognize our volunteers.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS: No implications indicated.

SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS: Volunteers play a key role in the community and recognition of their contributions is important to all aspects of our community.

ALTERNATIVES: Nominate another volunteer; Do not put names forward for the provincial award.

ATTACHMENTS:
