

MEMO

TO: Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee

FROM: Mallory Klooster, Manager, Community Well-Being

DATE: Thursday, April 25, 2024

RE: **Volunteer Work Update**

During the roundtable discussions in the meeting held on March 21st 2024, the committee discussed volunteer work and if their time could be considered for a volunteer tax credit.

Staff was asked to research into other volunteer services such as volunteer firefighters, that receive the volunteer tax credit as well as Habitat for Humanity volunteers and report back to the committee with the findings.

Volunteer Emergency Services: Volunteer Firefighters and Search and Rescue volunteers can receive a volunteer tax credit once they've completed at least 200 hours of eligible volunteer services within a year (up to \$3000.00).

Habitat for Humanity needs 500 hours from homeowners within 18 months and their work goes toward affordable homeownership. They receive interest free mortgages that are geared towards their income (30% gross income cap).

Monthly payments made by homeowners get deposited into a revolving fund, held by habitat Nova Scotia. Homeowners are not considered a volunteer but a Habitat Partner.

More information to follow.