



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### Excellence in Volunteering Awards

<b>Date:</b>	May 12, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Homes for the Aged
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### **SUMMARY**

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During National Volunteer Week, a special recognition ceremony was held at City Hall honouring volunteers from Toronto Homes for the Aged. Plaques were presented to groups and individuals from each Home, a divisional recipient and to a resident volunteer.

#### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications arising from the Excellence in Volunteering Awards.

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#### **ISSUE/BACKGROUND**

Volunteers greatly enhance the lives of the residents at Toronto's Homes for the Aged. While diverse in their background, age and approach, caring for residents is the common commitment. In 2007, more than 2,000 volunteers contributed 127,000 hours within the division, such dedication accounts for almost 50 hours of volunteer time per resident.

Once a year, each Home holds nominations and a selection committee chooses to recognize a volunteer or a group of volunteers with the "Excellence in Volunteering" award. Announcement and nomination forms are distributed and/or posted throughout the home informing staff, residents, volunteers and families of the opportunity to nominate a volunteer or a group of volunteers. The home selection committee comprised of the Home Administrator, Home Advisory Chair (or delegate if not available), Volunteer President, a representative from the Residents' Council, a member of staff, and the Co-ordinator, Volunteer Services (Resource) review the nominations to select the individual or group to receive the recognition.

The Homes also nominate a resident for the Mary Ellen Glover Award for selection by the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged. In camera, using the written description of the nominee's accomplishments and history with the Home, the recipient is selected. Since its inception in 2003, the Mary Ellen Glover Award has been an important part of the Division's formal volunteer recognition program. The winning resident is one who provides support to residents, advocates on behalf of residents, and makes a difference within the Home. In addition to the presentation made to the selected divisional recipient, the Homes are encouraged to host a special recognition to acknowledge the Home Nominee(s).

## COMMENTS

On May 2, 2008, during National Volunteer Week, a presentation ceremony was held at City Hall and was attended by Mayor David Miller who spoke about the importance of volunteers and the value of their service, issued and presented a Proclamation for Volunteer Week to Sandra Pitters, General Manager of Toronto Homes for the Aged.

Also in attendance and to assist with the award presentations were City Councillors Paul Ainslie, Raymond Cho, Janet Davis, Rob Ford, Joe Mihevc, David Shiner, and Deputy City Manager Sue Corke; representatives from the Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged, Home Administrators, Volunteer Co-ordinators, the General Manager and members of staff from head office. They, along with family, friends and co-volunteers of the recipients celebrated the accomplishments of the following list of deserving volunteers:

Bendale Acres	Saryu Desai
Carefree Lodge	Dick Money
Castleview Wychwood Towers	Leili Nurm
Cummer Lodge	Parisi Art Gallery Team – Barbara Milanowska, Pauline Dixie, Ian Kindred
Fudger House	Anne Hawkins
Kipling Acres	Syed Faizi
Lakeshore Lodge	Gift Shop Team – Bernice Henderson, Lois MacIntyre, Kay Song, John Song, Joyce Given
Seven Oaks	Jan Rowan
True Davidson Acres	Jessie Zapotchny, Audrie Ingram
Wesburn Manor	Cappucino Bar Volunteers – Brenda Glover, Jim Glover, Maria Godoyo, Dilini Kurukulaarachchi, Stanley Chui, Darel Dean, Rokhsana Khalid, Ayesha Siraj and Chantelle Swimm
Divisional Head Office	Anna Travers
Mary Ellen Glover Award	Kerry McShane, resident volunteer at Castleview

All of the recipients were featured as part of a display in the Rotunda at City Hall during National Volunteer Week, April 28 – May 3, 2008.

“Celebrating our Volunteers”, featuring photos from the ceremony and volunteer profiles will be available on the Volunteer portal of the Homes for the Aged website, [www.toronto.ca/lc](http://www.toronto.ca/lc).

Kerry McShane played “Impossible Dream” to end the ceremony while the Excellence in Volunteering recipients gathered around the baby grand piano in the Members’ Lounge at Toronto City Hall, an inspiring way to wrap up National Volunteer Week celebrations.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Sandra Pitters  
General Manager, Homes for the Aged

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Excellence in Volunteering bios