



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT N-1



NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2008

DG Luke's Message



Fellow Lions, I can't believe that the year is almost done. Where has the time gone? I guess time does fly when you are having fun.

We will soon gather in Moncton for our first annual convention. I hope that many of you will attend. Lion Brian and his team have worked hard to ensure that you have a great time. Due to the fact that we hosted the Fall Conference and soon the Multiple District Convention, we don't qualify for an International Director. Our guest speaker will be former MP Claudette Bradshaw.

Congratulations to those Lions who have accepted leadership roles within your clubs and the Zone. I am certain that VDG Rod will enjoy working with each and every one of you.

Keep up the great work and continue to do so with pride. You are the most important member in your club.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO PDG TIM HOBAN IN HIS EFFORTS TO HAVE THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK PROCLAIM LIONS DAY. WE DESERVE IT!

.....DG Luke Stennick

The following has been set up in recognition of all Lions throughout NB -
DATE: 18 April 08 TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: NB LEGISLATURE - FREDERICTON

Premier Shawn GRAHAM will be making the "DECLARATION" for "LIONS APPRECIATION DAY IN NB" in the NB Legislature.

The following has been directed: The gallery will hold 50/60 Lions - We want as many Lions as possible to be dressed in their vests in the gallery when the announcement is made at around 10:00 am - A photo-op will take place immediately after the announcement.

We must have all names of the members attending to be submitted by myself a week prior to the announcement. This is a security measure in place at the legislature. So please get all names into me ASAP. tbhoban@nbnet.nb.ca

IF YOU AREN'T GOING ALL THE WAY, THEN WHY GO AT ALL?
.....**JOE NAMATH**

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"CHALLENGE TO CHANGE"



Let the Celebrations Continue! Riverview Lions open their Seniors Center

The River Valley Lions on Feb. 1 2008 received the keys to their new senior's complex. With years in the planning stage we now have our dream a reality. The hard work of our members has finally paid off.



See Visitation schedule on page 4.

If you have any special requests
Please contact me
lukes@nb.sympatico.ca



Cavlcade 2008

Fellow Lions to all clubs

There is less than 8 weeks before CAVALCADE

Have you dedicated a project for this very worthwhile endeavor?
Very few clubs have ordered Posters
Are you considering getting sponsors ? Receipt will be issued for any amount over \$10.00
Make sure you have correct mailing Address and bring to cavalcade or mail to Lion Joe 5-0

Any amount that you or your club gives is a plus no matter how small or big. Challenge your members to meet what your club is going to give

I'm very pleased that St Marys is teaming up with the Greater Fredricton area Lions Club to have a GIANT Bingo

I have posters available
Need any help we are here to help but you must do your part

You know that you can sponsor a Child for \$200.00 for the Camp

If you do not plan to come to Cavalcade please forward your cheques to
Lions Joe Ruet 63 Eastwood Ave. Moncton N.B. E1A 3P3
Cheques to be made out to **Lions District N-1 (Cavalcade)**
Any further inquiries call 506-852-1268

Cavalcade Chair Joe 5-0

Would you like your event published in the Newsletter?

Has your Club held a special event that you would like to share with fellow Lions?

SEND IT TO US!!

lukes@nb.sympatico.ca

sangster@nbnet.nb.ca



This series of one time print by Canada Post will be done for issue 21 April 08 representing the different dogs at LFC. Canada Post is doing this for publicity on our 25th Anniversary. ..NB Director Lion Fred Cook.

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA HONORED BY CANADA POST

DETAILS APRIL-JUNE 2008

Guide Dogs

Issue Date: April 21, 2008

By Pat Newson

ANCIENT SCULPTURE AND ART, OLD-WORLD fables and new-world films; each in their time have documented the faithful dedication and help received from animal companions. On April 21, 2008, a commemorative stamp, released to coincide with the Montreal Association for the Blind's 100th anniversary, pays homage to the contributions of guide dogs.

The relationship between people and their guide dogs was captured in a first-century A.D. mural discovered in the ruins of an ancient Roman town. Centuries later, a wooden plaque from the Middle Ages and a mid-eighteenth century painting from France also portray a guide dog with a partner. But it wasn't until the twentieth century that the concept was introduced formally and embraced globally.

Upon the return of thousands of soldiers blinded by poisonous gas during the First World War, a sympathetic German doctor, Gerhard Stalling, explored the

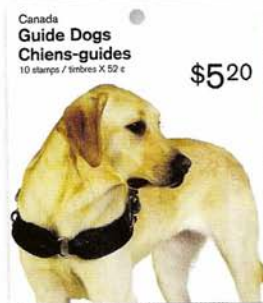
idea of training dogs to serve as guiding companions for those who had lost their vision. His research and training methods drew international attention and eventually launched a modern movement of similar schools worldwide.

While Stalling's initial concept focused on giving people with vision loss more independence, today people with hearing impairments or physical challenges also enjoy new-found freedoms through the assistance of specially trained canine companions.

According to Stephen Boake and Andrew Perro of Toronto's Designwerke Inc., the guiding principle behind the stamp imagery was to keep it simple. "We wanted the dog to be the dominant feature, while reinforcing the intimate connection to the human partner. So the dog is shown in three-quarter view, while the partner appears in silhouette," says creative director Stephen Boake.



Note that the denomination appears in Braille.
La valeur faciale est inscrite en braille sur le timbre.



Booklet of 10 stamps
Carnet de 10 timbres
413698111 \$ 5.20



Braille translation for Guide Dogs appears at the top of the stamp booklet and in the top left corner of the OFDC.

La traduction en braille du mot « chiens-guides » apparaît dans la partie supérieure du carnet de timbres et dans le coin inférieur gauche du PPJO.

Chiens-guides

Date d'émission : le 21 avril 2008

Par Pat Newson

SCULPTURES ET ART ANTIQUES, LÉGENDES DE l'ancien monde, films du Nouveau Monde : l'art sous toutes ses formes a témoigné, au cours de l'histoire, du dévouement et de la fidélité des animaux de compagnie, ainsi que de l'aide qu'ils apportent aux humains. Émis le 21 avril pour coïncider avec le centenaire de l'Association montréalaise pour les aveugles, un timbre commémoratif rend hommage aux chiens-guides.

On a trouvé, dans les ruines d'une cité de l'Antiquité romaine, une murale datant du I^{er} siècle évoquant la complicité qui unit les êtres humains à leurs chiens-guides. Des siècles plus tard, on a découvert une plaque de bois de l'époque médiévale et un tableau de la France du XVIII^e siècle reproduisant, tous deux, un aveugle et son guide canin. Pourtant, ce n'est qu'au XX^e siècle que ce concept est reconnu officiellement et adopté dans le monde entier.

Pendant la Première Guerre mondiale, des milliers de soldats ont perdu la vue des suites de l'inhalation de gaz. Un médecin allemand compatissant du nom

de Gerhard Stalling songe à dresser des chiens pour qu'ils servent de guides à ces soldats. Ses recherches et ses méthodes suscitent l'intérêt à l'échelle mondiale; bientôt, des écoles de dressage ouvrent leurs portes un peu partout sur le globe.

Bien que l'idée initiale du D^r Stalling s'adressât uniquement aux aveugles, de nos jours, des personnes malentendantes ou ayant une déficience physique jouissent, elles aussi, d'une liberté toute neuve grâce à leurs compagnons canins, formés en fonction de leurs besoins particuliers.

Selon Stephen Boake et Andrew Perro, de la maison Designwerke Inc., à Toronto, le motif du timbre devait être empreint de simplicité. « Nous voulions mettre le chien en évidence, explique M. Boake, directeur artistique, tout en insistant sur le lien intime qui l'unit à son partenaire humain. L'animal est donc présenté de trois-quart et son maître, à mi-corps. »

Le Lions Club du Canada gère un rigoureux programme de formation de chiens-guides. Les deux

EN DÉTAIL AVRIL-JUIN 2008



CALL TO ORDER 1-800-565-4362

The Lions Club of Canada runs a rigorous guide dog training program. Boake and Perro spent a considerable amount of time at an Oakville, Ontario, facility to select dogs-in-training with just the right personalities and temperament. A calm disposition, a high level of initiation, the ability to concentrate and a strong desire to please are characteristics expected of guide dogs; as many as 60 per cent are rejected from dog training schools by 15 to 18 months of age.

Luke, the golden retriever featured on the stamp, was in the middle of a six-month training program when the photo was taken. Boston, a black labrador in training as a chore dog for people with physical disabilities, and Lee, a border terrier, training as a hearing companion, appear with Luke on the back of the official first day cover (OFDC).

Available in a booklet of 10 stamps, the Guide Dogs domestic rate (52¢) stamp incorporates Braille into

the design, "to recognize one of the groups of people that rely on guide dogs," explains Andrew Perro.

Adapting Braille or embossing techniques to self-adhesive stamps was a major consideration, concedes Liz Wong, Manager of Stamp Design and Production at Canada Post. "The raised Braille finish had to travel through two pieces of paper and the glue in between, so we had to explore these issues with the printer, along with a considerable amount of fine tuning. It's the first time this technique has been used in Canada to convey rates on a stamp, and language on an official first day cover." As well, the text for the OFDC is printed in an unusually large typeface, making it easier for those with some vision loss to read it. ☺

For statistics on the incidence of blindness and visual disabilities in Canada, refer to the National Coalition of Vision Health website at www.visionhealth.ca/data.htm.

GUIDE DOGS	
Date of issue	April 21, 2008
Denomination	1 x 52¢
Layout	Booklet of 10 stamps
Product No.	413698111 (\$5.20)
Design	Designwerke Inc.
Photography	J. Christopher Lawson; Guide-Dogs: courtesy of the Lions Foundation of Canada
Printer	Lowe-Martin
Quantity	3,500,000
Dimensions	38 mm x 27 mm (horizontal)
Perforations	Simulated perforation
Gum Type	Pressure sensitive
Printing Process	Lithography in 4 colours plus varnish
Paper Type	Tullis Russell
Tagging	General, 4 sides
Official First Day Cover (OFDC) Cancellation	Ottawa, Ontario
Product No. and Quantity	413698131 (\$1.52 – 23,000)



OFDC
PPJO
413698131 \$ 1.52

Philatelic products are available at post offices and through authorized stamp sales agents across Canada. Customers may visit the Stamps & Gifts Online store at www.canadapost.ca/collecting for more information.

Philatelic products are also available through the National Philatelic Centre mail order service.

NATIONAL PHILATELIC CENTRE
CANADA POST
75 ST NINIAN ST
ANTIGONISH NS B2G 2R8

1-800-565-4362 from Canada and the USA

concepteurs ont passé beaucoup de temps dans un de ses établissements, à Oakville, en Ontario, afin de choisir des chiens ayant commencé l'entraînement et dotés de la personnalité et du caractère requis. Calmes de nature, enclins à l'apprentissage, capables de se concentrer et désireux de plaire à leur maître : voilà certaines des caractéristiques recherchées. Les chiens qui les possèdent toutes sont des perles rares. En effet, les écoles rejettent jusqu'à 60 % des « élèves » avant qu'ils n'aient atteint l'âge de 15 à 18 mois.

Luke, le golden retriever présenté sur la figurine, avait terminé la moitié d'un programme de six mois au moment où la photo a été prise. Au dos du pli Premier Jour officiel (PPJO), Luke est accompagné de Boston, un retriever labrador noir, futur chien d'assistance pour une personne handicapée, et de Lee, un terrier border, destiné à une personne malentendante.

Présentée en carnet de 10 timbres, la vignette au tarif du régime intérieur (52 ¢) émise en hommage aux chiens-guides comporte du braille « pour attirer

l'attention sur l'un des groupes d'utilisateurs de chiens-guides », explique M. Perro.

Adaptée au braille, l'utilisation des techniques de gaufrage sur des timbres autocollants présentait tout un défi, admet Liz Wong, gestionnaire, Conception et production de timbres, à Postes Canada. « Pour obtenir l'effet bosselé du braille, les caractères ont dû être travaillés en relief sur deux feuilles collées, sans toutefois perforer le papier. Nous avons donc dû parfaire cette technique avec l'imprimeur, ce qui a nécessité une grande minutie. Cette méthode n'avait encore jamais été utilisée au Canada pour transcrire en braille le tarif sur un timbre et de l'information sur un pli Premier Jour officiel. » En outre, le texte original du PPJO est imprimé en très gros caractères à l'intention des personnes déficientes visuelles. ☺

Pour prendre connaissance des statistiques canadiennes relatives aux incidences de la cécité et de l'affaiblissement de la vue, consultez le site Web de la Coalition nationale en santé oculaire à l'adresse www.visionhealth.ca/data.htm.

CHIENS-GUIDES	
Date d'émission	21 avril 2008
Valeur	1 x 52 ¢
Présentation	Carnet de 10 timbres
N° de produit	413698111 (5,20 \$)
Conception	Designwerke Inc.
Photographie	J. Christopher Lawson; chiens-guides : reproduits avec la permission de la Fondation des Lions du Canada
Impression	Lowe-Martin
Tirage	3 500 000
Format	38 mm x 27 mm (horizontal)
Dentelure	Dentelure simulée
Gomme	Sensible à la pression
Procédé d'impression	Lithographie en 4 couleurs et vernis
Papier	Tullis Russell
Marquage	Procédé général, sur les 4 côtés
Oblitération du pli Premier Jour officiel (PPJO)	Ottawa (Ontario)
N° de produit et tirage	413698131 (1,52 \$ – 23 000)

POUR COMMANDER, APPELEZ AU 1 800 565-4362

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL - DISTRICT N-1 (MAINE, N.B., P.E.I.)

310 Rennie Rd., Miramichi, NB E1V 5Z7

05 JAN 08

Government of Prince Edward Island

Minister of Finance

**RE: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR
NON-PROFIT (SERVICE) ORGANIZATIONS – 2008**

Dear Sir;

Our Organization is presently facing considerable financial problems, with many realizing that without some assistance they will probably have to close their doors. This is further complicated by the reduction in volunteer numbers, creating a heavier work load for aging members and resulting in burn out. The following are a few suggestions wherein the Government of Prince Edward Island could assist us, so that we can maintain the quality and amount of Service provided to the residents of our communities and province.

A. The elimination of Property Taxes on Non-Profit (Service) Organizations property.

Note: Service organizations are totally volunteer and return all profits earned to their communities. Many provide community gathering space with free rent, heat, and electricity to numerous other non-profit groups such as CNIB, SCHIZPHRENIC, YOUTH GROUPS, AND SENIORS .

B. Reduce electricity rates by designating Non-Profit (Service) Organizations properties as “Residential Rates” rather than Commercial.

Note: This would provide assistance and some relief in electric bills allowing more money to be distributed throughout the community/Province.

C. Permit Non-Profit (Service) Organizations to purchase Furnace Oil and Propane at Government Bulk purchase rates.

Note: This would assist organizations in remaining solvent and not incurring heavy debt, also allowing more money to be circulated within the community and Province.

D. Provide a Tax Credit of \$2,000.00 for volunteers.

Note: This would provide an incentive and encourage new volunteers to get involved in their communities. All organizations are facing a serious shortage of volunteers and some even club closures. This would be a tremendous help in solving our present problem. Just think, “**what would Government do without volunteers?**”

Please contact the undersigned should you require any further information.

Sincerely Yours,

Lion Tim HOBAN

IPDG District 41N-1

P 506-773-5071 E-M tbhoban@nbnet.nb.ca

Cc – C. Robichaud; C. Baker; L. Stennick, C. Bradshaw



LR - Lion Dave BROWN - Lion Betty HOBAN
PEI Minister of Finance Wes SHERRTON, IPDG Tim HOBAN,
Lion Joey COOMBS, Lion George VAIL - Members of Parkdale Sherwood Lions Club.

**“CHALLENGE TO CHANGE”**



The International Association of Lions Clubs District N-1

Lion Roderick “Rod” Wright Vice District Governor

746 Union Street, Fredericton, NB E3A 3P2

(506) 472-4895 (506) 476-0666

rwright506@hotmail.com

April 2008

WOW! The Lionistic Year is racing to an end as the LIONS of DISTRICT N-1 prepare to gather for the FIRST District N-1 Convention. The excitement is in the air as the Moncton Lions under the leadership of Lion Brian and King Lion Eric are preparing for ALL the District Lions to come to Moncton and celebrate the successes of our first year and begin to build the vision of “where we can go” as “WE SERVE” our communities, our District, our country, and all those in need wherever they may be.

This year is ending with the celebration of the theme “A Challenge for Change”, but as we look to the future we must evaluate what we are doing and continue with “**Selective Change...Total Commitment**” for the development of our District to be the PRIDE of Lionism. We must be true to our Lions Code of Ethics and our Lions Objects as we continue to strive to support those in need.

As LIONS, we must also remember that for us to be strong and grow, we must also ensure that our needs are met. Great LIONS have learned how to use their time efficiently and ensure that all aspects of their lives are complete. Family, job, Lions have to share that precious time. If we truly want to grow we must make new LIONS feel that they are a part of the *greatest service organization in the world, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL*, and that we understand that commitments to family and job do not take away from being a good LION and having the opportunity to lead and provide a much needed service to their communities. We must recognize that in these changing times we all have many commitments. It may be family time, work, or other commitments that do not allow us to attend every LIONS function. But, we can be “**selective**” in what we choose to do and have “**total commitment**” to the Lions activity when we are present “whenever possible”, so each of us can find a balance so that our needs can be met on all levels.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Vice-District Governor for this past year. I have had the opportunity to visit about two thirds of the clubs within the District N-1 and I look forward to having the opportunity to serve you as your District Governor and continue to travel New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Maine with PRIDE in my heart and a smile on my face as I listen to and experience the oh so wonderful works that you as THE LIONS do on a daily basis in your communities to help those less fortunate to have a more positive view of what life has to offer. Keep smiling when you think of those works, allow them to touch your heart, allow yourself the opportunity to breathe and please-please-please feel good about the hours and hours of service that we give to make our communities just a little bit better for EVERYONE!

May each of you be and feel truly blessed.

“CHALLENGE TO CHANGE”



District Governor Visitations

APRIL 18-20	N-1 CONVENTION
MAY 3	ST. STEPHEN-MILLTOWN
MAY 10	St Elanors
MAY 16-18	MD N CONVENTION
MAY 31	DIABETES CAVALCADE WOODSTOCK

**** The change on May 10 is due to the fact that I double booked myself. My apologies to the two clubs involved.**

**** I have some make ups to do and will set up a revised schedule. This will go out to all clubs when finalized.**



CLUB MEETING CHANGE NOTICE

Dundas Lions Club will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month only until further notice.

LIONS DISTRICT N-1 IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

2007-2008

5th of each month	Monthly Reports are due
18-20 April, 2008.	District N-1 Convention & Officers School, Moncton Lions Club
26 April, 2008	Rexton Lions Club 46th Charter Night
1 May, 2008.	PU101s Completed and Submitted
3, May, 2008	St. Stephen-Milltown 50 th Charter Night
2, 3, 4, May 2008	MD N Regional Leadership Institute
16-18 May, 2008.	Multiple District N Convention
	Delta Prince Edward Hotel, Charlottetown
31 May, 2008.	Cavalcade NB, Woodstock Lions Club
7 June, 2008	River Valley Lions 40 th Charter Night



The **46th** Annual charter night of the **Rexton Lions Club** will be held at the Lions Community Hall, Main Street, Rexton on Saturday evening, **April 26th** commencing at 6 PM. A social hour (Meet & Greet) will be held from 6 –7 PM followed by a sit down dinner, speeches and award presentations. Cost is \$15 per person and tickets are available from any Lion member or by calling Raymond Murphy at 523 9026 or Alice Carter at 523 9681 before April 22nd.



Charter Night

50



This pin will be available soon. Cost is \$3.00 ea. Contact Lion Brian Kingston Convention Chair.

St. Stephen-Milltown Lions Club

May 3rd, 2008

St. Stephen Legion
Queen Street, St. Stephen

Meet and Greet 6:00-7:00 PM

Dinner 7:00 PM

Entertainment to Follow
Dance to Music of The 50's & 60's

Tickets - \$20.00 per person

The St. Stephen-Milltown Lions Club would like to invite you to their 50th Charter Night Celebration. We have an exciting evening planned as we celebrate the past fifty years of service with our special guest, District Governor, Luke Stennick.



||| ..Anyone know a good Lawyer???

||| Let this be a lesson for all future District Governors. When you tell the Dorchester Lions that you are attending their meeting, make sure you have the dates correct and that you show up on time. They have a set of mighty big keys

Cavalcade 2009

Interested in Hosting Cavalcade 2009?

Would you please ask any club who might be interested in hosting the 2009 Cavalcade to let me know soon as cavalcade is fast approaching

We have one submission at this time

Anyone else please do it soon by contacting the undersign (852-1268) or joe50@nb.sympatico.ca

Lion Joe 5-0 Cavalcade District Chair

Thank you to all the clubs who have sent in donations to the "Lion Ron Evans" Bursary Fund. Your contributions will ensure that the fund can continue and we can give more to the youth at Portage who are working very hard to turn their life around and become productive, educated citizens. There is still time if you have not yet sent your check.

As you prepare your budgets for next year, please keep Portage and the "Lion Ron Evans" Bursary Fund close to your hearts.

Thanks again

IPDG Boyd

RIVERVIEW LIONS HOLD SPEAK-OUT

"CHALLENGE TO CHANGE"





L to R KL Todd Prime, Larissa Crossman, Larissa Crossman, Hilary Perry, Mayor Clarence Sweetland

The Riverview Lions Club held a very successful annual speak-out at the Riverview Lions Hall on Sunday March 16th. There were six contestants from Petitcodiac Regional High, J.M.A. Armstrong High, Harrison Trimble High, and Riverview High.

The winner, Iris Hicks, will go on to compete in the Lions District N-1 competitions to be held at the Ramada Inn in Dieppe on April 19. Larissa Crossman, took second place, while Hilary Perry placed third.

Barkers Point and Nashwaaksis Lions co-sponsor Speakout

Leo Hayes High School students presented 18 contestants for the Annual Speakout Contest March 13, 2008. As this was the only High School participating from Zone 11, the winner Roddy Flores moves on to the District contest. Second place went to Brittany Doucet and Jennah Robichaud placed third.



The **Lions of River Valley** will be celebrating their **40th** Charter Night on **June 7 2008**.
27 Inglewood Drive, Grand Bay-Westfield.

Social Hour from 6:00PM to 7:00PM With Wine And Hors-d'oeuvres.
The meal consists of Garden Salad, Roast Beef, Creamed Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Carrots, Peas and Gravy.
Desert of Home made Apple Crisp with Whipped Cream. Tea and Coffee.
Dance to follow with DJ Music. Cash bar.
Tickets \$25.00 per couple or \$15.00 for a single.
Come Help Us Celebrate 40 Years of Service.
Seating is limited so please book early.
Please contact Lion Harriet Hutchinson at 506-738-2998 for tickets or email Lion Debby Burns at deburns@nb.sympatico.ca



“CHALLENGE TO CHANGE”





We Serve



We Serve



We Serve

DIABETIC BINGO

SATURDAY MAY 3rd, 2008

ST. MARY'S ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Afternoon Bingo - Starts at 1:00pm

Sets rerun until 5:00pm - \$10.00 per set

(5in1: 1 Line, 2 Lines, Letter "X", All Around The Fence, Full Card)

Games 1-5	Black	5 in 1	50/50
Games 6-10	Green	5 in 1	50/50
Games 11-15	Orange	5 in 1	50/50
Game 16	Yellow	Line & 4 Corners	50/50
Game 17	Aqua	Two Lines	75/25

ONCE FIRST GAME OF EACH SET STARTS, ALL SALES STOP

Evening Bingo

Early Birds Start at 6:00

Entrance Price - 12up \$16.00 + Toonie

Regular Games Start at 7:00

EXTRAS: 6up - \$5.00

Regular Games Pay \$150.00

3up - \$3.00

\$1000.00 Jackpot Must Go

Specials - \$8.00

MUST BE 16 YEARS OF AGE

ALL PROCEEDS TO FUND DIABETIC CHILDREN ATTENDING SUMMER CAMP
SPONSORED BY THE ST. MARY'S ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
AND THE LIONS CLUBS OF THE GREATER FREDERICTON AREA

CANTEEN SERVICES AVAILABLE ALL DAY

"CHALLENGE TO CHANGE"



Volunteering is in the blood

Haanstra family honours father's memory through commitment to Canadian Blood Services

By Amanda Cullen,
Communications Specialist, N.B.

Volunteering with Canadian Blood Services is a way of life for the Haanstra family of Minto, New Brunswick. Bill Haanstra began organizing blood donor clinics in 1988 and he wasn't shy to recruit his family, friends and co-workers to help out at the clinics. His children Susan, Shawn and Heather all began volunteering at the clinics at an early age. "Our father was an active volunteer in the community and when he took on the task of organizing blood donor clinics, he went all-out," says Susan.

A tireless promoter of the importance of blood donor clinics, Bill brought the Chipman-Minto Lions Club, Knights of Columbus Father Dysart Council 3502 and the Minto Senior Citizens Club onboard as sponsors. Clinics are held at the Senior Citizens Club free of charge while the Lions and Knights of Columbus donate refreshments.

As is the case with many of the volunteers at Canadian Blood Services, Bill Haanstra did much more than organize blood donor clinics. An NB Power employee, Bill was involved with Minor

Hockey and the Lions Club, a school district trustee, and a member of the board for the W.G. Bishop Nursing Home.

Bill began donating blood in his native Holland and it became a life-long habit after immigrating to Canada in 1952 at the age of 17. At the time of his death, Bill had made over 100 blood donations. Bill's commitment to his volunteer work was unparalleled. On the day of his last blood donor clinic Bill found out about the illness that would end his life within a few months. He had left the clinic for his doctor's appointment and not only returned to finish his afternoon shift but came back during the evening session to help out.

After Bill's death, his kids, Heather, Shawn and Susan decided to carry on their father's work. They share the responsibilities of organizing each clinic, including taking time off work for the afternoon sessions. "It only seemed fitting to continue organizing the clinics as it was such an important part of Dad's volunteer work," says Heather. "We've been involved for so long that it wasn't difficult to pick up where Dad left off. We are able to depend on the many dedicated volunteers that Dad has recruited over the years and the clinics continue to be a success."

It truly is a family affair now, with Bill's wife Rose distributing posters and supplying items for the clinics while Heather's husband Daryl sets up the hall. Even more remarkable is the fact that Heather's children, Tori and Jordan, now help with the set up and volunteer at evening clinics. We know Bill would be proud.



Bill Haanstra's grandchildren, Jordan and Tori Arsenault, enjoy honouring their grandfather's memory by volunteering at the Minto blood donor clinics.

RECOGNITION

Annually, the success of the residents is celebrated with family, friends and Portage supporters. The heart-warming ceremony testimonials from youth move those in attendance to further understand and appreciate the value of the Portage Program. To be present at the Recognition ceremony is an experience not soon forgotten. The tears, the smiles and the testimonies clearly demonstrate the hard work put forth by all residents and the rebirth of hopes and dreams that were once lost. See Jaclyn's story below.

HAMPTON - Two years ago, teen alcoholic and drug addict Jaclyn Seely's (inset) life was in tatters. She hated everyone, including herself, had dropped out of school - and was in trouble with the law. But on Sunday, September 30th, the beaming 19-year-old Kingston Peninsula resident, said she's "never been happier in my whole life" as she prepared to accept her graduation certificate and a \$1,000 Lions Club bursary during Portage Atlantic's 10th annual Recognition Day at Hampton High School.

"It's awesome and amazing," she said, tearing up, of her transformation. "I'm living at home (in Summerville) with my Mom now and own my own car. I travel back and forth to school. I'm doing good." Seely hates to think what might have become of her if her mother hadn't helped get her into Portage, a residential treatment facility for adolescents aged 14 to 21 with substance abuse problems. "I honestly, probably, wouldn't be alive or here today," said Seely. "I was hating everybody. I was hating myself. I didn't like who I was anymore, and I didn't want to have anything to do with people. My Mom told me she didn't know what to do with me anymore, so she took me for an interview with Portage." That's when, she says, her life started to turn around.



She went through its treatment program for a year and then took a government-funded staff position at Portage, located at Cassidy Lake, for a year before enrolling in community college. Seely's inspirational story isn't unlike that of other Portage Atlantic graduates.

Seely was one of about 40 youths who were recognized on Sunday, September 30th, 2007 for having completed various stages of the residential and aftercare components of the program, as well as for meeting educational milestones.

Experts from Telegraph Journal,
October 1, 2007 - Mike Mullan, Writer





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