

## 2026 Civic Recognition Award Recipients

**Amateur Sports:** Awarded to an individual(s) excelling in amateur sports.

### Recipient — Jessica Davis

At just 14-years-old, Jessica identified the need to create more opportunities for girls to play basketball in Prince Edward County. She took the initiative to organize free basketball clinics and programs that have since provided young girls with a welcoming place to develop their skills, build confidence, form friendships, and enjoy the game.

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**Bravery & Heroism:** Awarded to an individual(s) for an act of bravery or heroism.

### Recipient — Spencer Henshaw

On April 1, 2026, 17-year-old Spencer encountered a life-threatening situation on County Road 3 involving an elderly woman who had become entangled in her car. Spencer's calm, decisive actions prevented a much more serious outcome.

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**Community or Service Group(s):** Awarded for contributions that have had a significant and positive impact on our community.

### Recipient — Friends of the Library

**Barbara Boos, Denise Boos, Debby Cermak, Diane Cranshaw, Don Creighton, Evelyn Crowe, Janice Duffy, Brian Durell, Kathy Empringham, Deelia Evans, Carole Falkner, Jaiya Grey, Deborah Gund, Joan Huether, Gisa Iannaci, Martha Ippersall, Candace Keays, Gillian Leek, Chris MacKay, Beverley Marr, Claudette Marr, Janet McConnell, Cheryl Morrison, Ele Pawelski, Dorothy Speirs, Gerry Taylor, Marilyn Toombs, Liz Zylstra**

What began as an effort to help sustain local library branches has grown into the driving force behind fundraising, programming, advocacy, and community engagement for the library throughout the County. "The Friends" contribute significantly to our community's well-being through literacy initiatives, educational events, and activities that bring residents together.

### Recipient — Food for Learning Volunteers

- **Athol-South Marysburgh Public School - Amira Loney, Katie Lunn, Heather McMaster, Audrey Rutgers, Andrew White**

- **C.M.L. Snider Elementary School** - Tonya Ashton, Sarah Allen, Justine Bucknell, Joan Carson, Erica Cash, Kimberley Coffell, Caleigh Farrell, Jane Kopp, Mark Pavlidis, Nicole Pennock, Michael Silverthorne
- **Kente Public School** - names not provided
- **Massassauga-Rednersville Public School** - Natasha Bardin, Jeff Bartlett, Katrina Kovach, Laura Macfarlane, Sara Mayer, Michelle McKeown, Kathy Mulder, Al West
- **Prince Edward Collegiate Institute** - Alyssa Hawkins, Sarah Jaeger, Molly Jamison, Greer Koutroulides, Marah MacDonald
- **Sophiasburgh Central School** - Jolie Dehaan, Kathy Markoleafas, Carla McFarlane
- **St. Gregory Catholic School** - Lisa Carroll, Bobbi-Jo Farrington, Aurora Farrington-Sweet, Reba Pennell

Consisting of volunteers, school staff, students, parents, grandparents, retirees, and community supporters, these teams work tirelessly behind the scenes to sustain breakfast and snack programs that ensure students have access to nutritious food in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

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**Environment & Sustainability:** Awarded to an individual or group for contributions to environmental awareness and/or conservation efforts.

**Recipient — The Climate Action Plan Working Group** - Angus Ross (Chair), Don Wilford (Vice-Chair), Cathie Coultis, Ewa Czerny, John Hirsch, Jonathan Lake, Dan Leeming

The Climate Action Plan Working Group was established by Council on November 1, 2023 to support the County's commitment to climate action. Through extensive research, data analysis, and community engagement, they produced the County's first Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report, providing an essential baseline to guide future climate action planning.

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**Youth Leadership:** Awarded to a youth who has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills.

**Recipient — Thomas Rice**

Thomas has served as Student Council President, co-led the County Youth Leadership Team, represented his peers as a student trustee, and has played an active role in arts, youth engagement, and community programs. Thomas's dedication to leadership, collaboration, and mentorship has left a lasting impression on the County and serves as an example for others to follow.

**Youth Volunteer:** Awarded to a youth for exceptional volunteerism.

**Recipient — Audrey Maracle**

Audrey is a Grade 11 student at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute who generously volunteers her time to support fellow students, promote Indigenous awareness, and strengthen community connections by bringing people together through education, understanding, and respect.

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**Outstanding Volunteer Awards:** Presented to individuals whose extensive volunteer efforts have contributed to the quality of life in Prince Edward County.

**Recipient — Brian Beiles**

Under his leadership, The County Foundation evolved from a small group of committed residents into a respected community institution. Brian's commitment to building partnerships, fostering a culture of giving, and strengthening community connections has helped shape The County Foundation into the trusted organization it is today

**Recipient — Beverley Marr**

Beverley's volunteer contributions are extensive and far-reaching. As a longtime volunteer archivist with the Quinte Educational Museum and Archives, a leader within the Women's Institute, and a dedicated supporter of local libraries and community projects, she has generously shared her time, knowledge, and talents to strengthen the organizations and causes she cares about.

**Recipient — Susan Rose**

More than 35 years ago, Susan turned her compassion for others into action by establishing the Prince Edward County Christmas Angel Tree Program. While the Angel Tree Program's impact can be measured in the thousands of families it has supported over the years, its true legacy lies in the kindness, generosity, and sense of community that Susan has inspired in others.

**Recipient — Pamela Stagg**

For the past 11 years, Pamela has been the driving force behind *The County, Naturally* on 99.3 County FM. She is recognized for her curiosity, dedication, and commitment to lifelong learning. She has enriched our community and reached audiences far beyond Prince Edward County. In June 2026, Pamela was honoured by the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, Raymond Cho, and Lieutenant Governor, Edith Dumont, with the Ontario Senior Achievement Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to her community and the province.

**Recipient — Carole Thimidis**

For over 20 years, Carole has been a volunteer at The Regent Theatre, becoming a familiar and welcoming presence for countless residents and visitors attending movies, concerts, and community events. Carole also volunteers at a local thrift shop, continuing a lifelong commitment to giving back to the community she cares so deeply about. Now in her mid-80s, she remains an active, dedicated, and inspiring volunteer.

**Recipients — Lee Tremblay and Lillee**

For many years, Lee and his certified St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog, Lillee, have dedicated themselves to supporting others through regular visits to Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital, VON clients, and local schools. Their service reminds us that kindness, compassion, and human connection can have a profound impact, and that some of the most meaningful contributions are made, one person at a time.

**Recipient — Nancy Woods**

Since 1988, Nancy has been a devoted volunteer at Macaulay Heritage Park, contributing an extraordinary 36 years of service to one of our community's most treasured historic sites. Her knowledge and enthusiasm has helped generations of residents and visitors connect with our shared heritage in meaningful and memorable ways.

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**The Mayor's Special Achievement Awards:** As selected by the Mayor, these awards recognize individuals, organizations, or groups whose contributions are exemplary and of distinction.

**Recipient — Sandra Latchford**

'Sandy' has made exceptional contributions to Prince Edward County through her leadership, volunteerism, and commitment to preserving the community's history, character, and well-being. Her impact spans heritage preservation, community organizations, seniors' advocacy, and civic engagement.

**Recipient — Peter Lockyer**

For four decades, Peter has been the County's foremost champion of local history and heritage. His presentations, publications, videos, and storytelling have helped generations of residents, visitors and academics develop a deeper appreciation for the people, places, and events that have shaped Prince Edward County.

**Recipient — David Hepburn and Max Mee**

David founded *Many Happy Returns* in 2015 after recognizing a need for residents to responsibly recycle their empty alcohol beverage containers. As the initiative grew, Max

joined the effort in 2020, helping expand its reach and impact throughout the County. Together, they have turned recyclable containers into meaningful financial support for local organizations, community programs, and residents facing difficult circumstances.

### **Recipient — Terry Sprague**

Terry's lifelong dedication to education, conservation, and community service has made a lasting contribution to Prince Edward County. For more than 60 years, he has shared his knowledge, passion, and deep appreciation for the natural world with generations of residents and visitors.

### **Recipients — Lee Tremblay and Lillee**

Through years of service, compassion, and quiet dedication, Lee and Lillee have touched countless lives across Prince Edward County. Whether offering comfort, companionship, reassurance, or simply a reason to smile, they have made a meaningful difference to people of all ages and circumstances. Together, they have shown the extraordinary power of kindness and human connection. Their impact can be seen not only in those they have supported directly, but in the warmth, caring, and community spirit they inspire in others.

### **Recipient — The Honourable Lyle Vanclief**

Lyle has devoted much of his life serving this community, supporting agriculture, and advocating for rural communities as a Member of Parliament. His contributions to agriculture, rural life, and community well-being have continued well beyond his formal role in public service.

### **Recipient — Myrna Woods (posthumously)**

Myrna devoted her life to protecting the natural heritage that defines Prince Edward County. She was a founding force behind the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory, the Spring Birding Festival, the Prince Edward County Field Naturalists, and the South Shore Joint Initiative, organizations that continue to play a vital role in conservation, education, research, and community engagement. Although Myrna passed away on September 26, 2025, her legacy lives on through the many causes she supported and the organizations she helped create.