



Attention News editor

Guelph volunteer Pat McCraw awarded Governor General's Caring Canadian Award

July 2, 2013(Guelph) – Mentor, unsung hero, professional volunteer, powerhouse worker, local expert – these are just some of the words used to describe local volunteer, Pat McCraw, who will receive the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award later this year.

Created in 1995, the [Governor General's Caring Canadian Award](#) recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation. It highlights the fine example set by these volunteers, whose compassion and engagement have had such a positive impact on the lives of many.

“We could not begin to count the number of people in Guelph whose lives have been touched and changed for the better directly or indirectly by Pat McCraw,” says Dr. Judy Brisson, President of Zonta Club of Guelph. “She is truly a Caring Canadian.”

It's likely that everyone in Guelph has benefitted from Pat McCraw's fifty years of volunteerism in our community. Eighty-four years young, she continues to add to a stellar record of service that includes being a founding member of: Guelph's Women of Distinction awards, Guelph Community Foundation, Guelph Chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women. Past President of: Family and Children's Services, the national board for Save the Children Canada, Guelph Wellington United Way, of the Guelph Wellington Liberal federal riding association and of Farm Radio International. She's been a board member of the Guelph YM-YWCA, YWCA Canada, the Guelph Community Foundation, Guelph Spring Festival and a member of the Zonta Club of Guelph for over thirty years! She is a recipient of Guelph's Mayor's award and was recently awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal.

While many in our community are eager to sing her praises, McCraw is extremely modest. “Under her quiet demeanor is a woman who is dedicated to advancement of women, equality for children and those in need, and education,” said Cindy Lindsay, former Executive Director for the Guelph Community Foundation and current Director of Member Services for Community Foundations of Canada. “No matter what organization Pat dedicates her time to, it is with a conviction that it is the right thing and will ultimately make Guelph a better community for all.”

His Excellency The Right Honourable David Johnston honoured twelve volunteers during the Community Foundations of Canada conference in Winnipeg earlier in June. Since McCraw was

unable to attend the event, the Foundation will arrange a local ceremony later this year where McCraw's many nominators can gather to see her receive the award.

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About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in promoting community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Guelph and surrounding communities. The Foundation pools the charitable gifts of many donors into permanent, income-earning endowments. Income from the endowments supports a wide range of charitable programs and activities. Total funds under administration are \$10.4 million with over \$7 million in permanent endowed assets. Since inception, over \$2 million has been distributed to over 800 charitable initiatives.

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For more information about the Guelph Community Foundation, contact:

Guelph Community Foundation

Tel: 519-821-9216

Susan Brown

Board Chair and Chair of the Grants Committee
Guelph Community Foundation

Tel: 519-837-1319 or 519-241-5394