

## A CONVERSATION WITH THE WARDEN

# ALLEN WEBBER, MUNICIPALITY OF CHESTER



“Volunteerism is absolutely critical to the delivery of services, not only municipal and provincial but right across the country.”

Municipality of Chester Warden Allen Webber feels passionate about the contributions of volunteers in his community, not only for those that add to the quality of life in the Municipality such as

the many church suppers, special events, parks and recreation programs, but also those which enable critical services such as fire departments, health services, the arts, and school programs to function.

“Volunteerism is critical to many essential services, it’s embedded in the whole delivery system, and it must be understood in these terms”, says Warden Webber, “Such essential services as the RCMP, schools, hospitals and health care facilities have gaps that are filled by volunteers and without these people, we would certainly not have the level of service that we enjoy today.”

Chester boasts a vibrant volunteer community with over 150 groups and organizations, and the Municipality of the District of Chester recognizes and values the importance of all volunteers who contribute time, energy and hard work. It is this selfless commitment that forms the foundation of a thriving community and allows us to grow and prosper.

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, over 200 people attended the annual Volunteer Reception in honour of these volunteers.

Spring / Summer 2010

# VOLUNTEER VOICE

The newsletter of the Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership



## PROVINCIAL VOLUNTEER WEEK Celebrating Local Volunteers



Communities everywhere celebrated National Volunteer Week from April 18th to 24th, 2010. This was a time to thank volunteers who donate freely of their time to support causes in which they believe.

Each year the provincial government recognizes the outstanding contributions of volunteers. The time, energy and dedication of volunteers was celebrated at the 36th Annual Provincial Volunteer Awards Ceremony on April 12, 2010.

From Lunenburg and Queens Counties there were nine individuals who were presented with certificates of appreciation by the Honourable Mayann E. Francis and Minister Marilyn More.



**Top Row From Left:** Allan Waterman - Region of Queens Municipality, Sherry Veinot - Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, Kathy Kirkpatrick - Town of Lunenburg, Cyril McDonagh Harnish - Municipality of Chester

**Bottom Row From Left:** Michael Graves - Town of Bridgewater, Suzanne Lohnes-Croft - Town of Mahone Bay, Gillian Bond - Municipality of Chester, Rick & Kathy Gilbert - Region of Queens Municipality

**Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Centre**  
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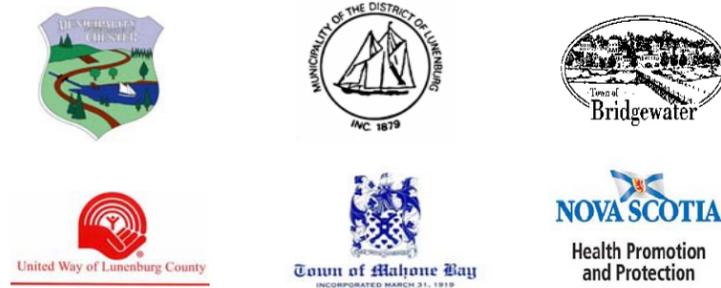
### Our Mission and Purpose

The **Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership** is a collective of like-minded government departments and not-for-profit agencies who have a mandate to support volunteers and community development in the region. The group’s mandate is to identify gaps, support volunteer capacity development and advocate services for volunteers and their organizations. The group achieves this by:

- Creating awareness of the value of volunteerism
- Facilitating skill development opportunities for volunteers and community developers
- Providing tools and resources, and
- Undertaking partnership development that will further volunteerism in our community

For more information about the LQVP we invite you to visit our website at [www.lqvc.ca](http://www.lqvc.ca).

The **Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Centre and Partnership** is made possible by the generous support of:



The Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Partnership is pleased to have the support of the following organizations as part of the **Partnership Committee:**

South Shore Big Brothers Big Sisters	South Shore Public Libraries
Lunenburg County United Way	Second Story Women’s Centre
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg	Town of Bridgewater
Municipality of the District of Chester	Town of Mahone Bay
Region of Queens Municipality	Town of Lunenburg
Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection	VON Lunenburg County
Lunenburg /Queens Regional Development Agency	VON Queens County
Acadia Centre for Social and Business Entrepreneurship	

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**Lunenburg Queens Volunteer Centre**  
[www.lqvc.ca](http://www.lqvc.ca)



"Calley"

# YOUR LOCAL MATCHMAKING SERVICE

## S.H.A.I.D. Tree Animal Shelter

All cats deserve a loving home but dear Calley really deserves one. This girl has had a hard life and despite it all she still has faith in human beings. Please won't you come and adopt this girl and shown her that there are loving people in the world.

S.H.A.I.D. needs your help! We need volunteers to run errands, to handle minor repairs, to do yard work and shovel walkways. We need people to groom and train dogs (you do not have to be an experienced trainer). We need people to foster the sick and the young. When volunteers can give a morning to clean cat cages, the staff can get their other work caught up.

To adopt Calley or volunteer contact S.H.A.I.D. Tree Animal Shelter at 543-4849.

If you're an organization in need of volunteers OR if you're an individual looking for a fulfilling volunteer activity, we'd like to help find your volunteer match made in heaven.

Contact us to see what's available or to list your volunteer opportunity.

c/o ACSBE Resource Centre  
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### Events Planning and Promotion Pizza Night - Update



This great workshop was held May 19th at the DesBrisay Museum with 19 participants in attendance. Facilitator Bernadette Jordan provided a lively and informative session on organizing fundraising events.

Thanks Bernadette!

## VOLUNTEERS AVAILABLE

**Newton House**, a residential care facility for youth with autism is looking for ways to involve these youth in the community during the summer months. Participant ages are 10, 13 and 15 and they would be accompanied and assisted by Newton House Staff. Contact Shannon Cragg at 543-5986 or the Volunteer Navigator.

### Public Health Student

A fourth year Public Health student from Cape Breton University is looking for volunteer opportunities in Lunenburg County. For further details please contact the Volunteer Navigator.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**The Forties Community Association** is looking for volunteers to assist with community suppers. Please contact Marsha Yeaton at 689-2612 or call the Volunteer Navigator.

**SHAID Tree Animal Shelter** is looking for volunteers for a variety of projects! Please contact SHAID at 543-4849.

**The Lunenburg County Historical Society** is a volunteer non-profit society, established in 1969. Our Volunteers manage and operate the Fort Point Museum site in LaHave. There are exciting volunteer opportunities available for interested parties of all ages. Call Gary at 688-1970 if you would like to volunteer!

**The Canadian Dory Racing Association** needs volunteers! We row dories internationally and it is a fantastic activity for both young and old. If you have a little time to spare for this history and heritage carrying sport call 766-0513.

**Bridgewater Community Garden** is looking for volunteers. Call 543-2274 or email: [bridgewatergarden@gmail.com](mailto:bridgewatergarden@gmail.com).

**Bridgewater Active Transportation Committee** is looking for volunteers. Call Leon 541-4390 or email: [ldvreede@bridgewater.ca](mailto:ldvreede@bridgewater.ca)

**Bridgewater Sustainability Festival** is looking for volunteers. Call Leon 541-4390 or email: [ldvreede@bridgewater.ca](mailto:ldvreede@bridgewater.ca)

# BRIDGEWATER FARMERS' MARKET



## LOCAL PEOPLE, LOCAL PRODUCTS - YOUR COMMUNITY'S FOOD AT ITS BEST

*Contributed by Meredith Bell, Bridgewater Farmers Market Association*

The Bridgewater Farmers' Market opened July 4th, 2009 in the heart of downtown, on a vacant King Street lot (between Empire and Dominion Streets). The Market's rejuvenation represents a collaborative effort between local farmers, artisans, community members, Bridgewater Town Council and local MLAs.

A not-for-profit Association was formed with a group of core members/vendors. Once the volunteer role of Market Manager was filled, outdoor Saturday Markets continued throughout the summer until our season closing October 10th. During this 15-week period, our membership grew to more than 20 vendors and our customer-base averaged 350 per market - rain or shine. A good first year.

One primary goal was to create an enjoyable market experience, while building ongoing relationships between our producers and consumers. According to an end of season market evaluation, "word of mouth" promotion contributed to the majority of first time visitors.

Others discovered our location driving by the site. All remarked that local markets are an important part of any community.

In spite of limited promotions our first season, we cultivated a loyal group of supporters. Our attention to the quality and variety of locally grown and made products, fair pricing, good location and friendly atmosphere established a strong base for future growth.

As more customers become increasingly interested in issues of food quality, sustainable farming practices, point of origin of their food, we will continue to be a part of this educational process. Face-to-face conversations are best, but updates on Facebook and our website are other options for this process.

The Bridgewater Farmers' Market represents local people selling local products that showcase the community's food at its best from our fields to your table every week. We look forward to building new friendships at this season's Farmers' Market, every Saturday from 8:30a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information about our vendors or to get involved check out our website: [www.bridgewaterfarmersmarket.ca](http://www.bridgewaterfarmersmarket.ca).



## IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE VOLUNTEER VOICE

**Feature: Bridgewater Karate Club  
New LQVP Website Launch  
LQVP Youth Video Project**