



*presents...*



*“Life is for service.”*

*Fred Rogers, from *Life's Journeys According to Mister Rogers: Things to Remember Along the Way**

In this brochure, you will find the nominees/recipients of the 2012 *Co-op Service Awards*. This seventh year that the awards have been presented by COCHF is also the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives. With these awards, housing co-ops in Waterloo Region, Guelph, and Brantford can give recognition to their members and staff who have made a significant contribution to their co-op community or to the greater co-op movement, or made a contribution to the larger community while demonstrating the co-operative principles and values.

Even though the award is presented by COCHF, these individuals have been nominated solely by their own co-ops. The award is an opportunity for a co-op to show its appreciation for their nominee's valued contribution that has made a difference in its community.

Congratulations from COCHF to all of the nominees/recipients of the 2012 *Co-op Service Awards*.

## **Recipients of the 2012 Co-op Service Awards**

On the following pages are the co-op members and staff who have been nominated to receive a *Co-op Service Award* in 2012.

**Vaughn Barclay**

**Carol Hueck**

**Rob Nahrang**

**Antoni Henry Palecki**

**Alan Pickersgill**

**Helen Renaud**

**Lana Wong**



## **Vaughn Barclay**

*Nominated by Royal City Housing Co-operative, Guelph*

Vaughn has been a part of Royal City since 2002, and been a strong foundation of the co-op community. Her work on various committees over the years is a testament to her solid commitment. Vaughn served several terms on the Board, and is currently the chair of Member Selection and Member Relations committees. She brings a sense of fairness, level-headedness and organizational skills, insuring the co-op's financial security and a good membership base. Vaughn is also seen lending a hand on clean-up days, and participating in membership meetings. Her quiet, consistent, and solid work has a positive effect on the larger community. Royal City joins together in a hearty thank you for a commendable job done.

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## **Carol Hueck**

*Nominated by Beechwood Co-operative Homes, Waterloo*

Carol is often the first co-op member that new residents meet, in her volunteer position as a Membership Interviewer. She always lends a sympathetic ear during interviews, and is an excellent judge of character. Since becoming a member in 1999, Carol has been a Board member, participates in community clean ups, and has rarely missed a members meeting, Carol is recognized as a helpful member.

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## **Rob Nahrang**

*Nominated by Changemakers Co-operative Homes, Kitchener*

Rob is the head of Landscaping at Changemakers Co-operative Homes. Rob has lived at Changemakers for 14 years. Rob believes a job isn't worth doing unless you're willing to do it right if it is mowing, etching of sidewalks or destroying weeds in the driveway. Rob also ensures timely shovelling and salting of our walkways. Rob is always willing to lend a hand with our many functions like barbecuing at social events and setting up or taking down chairs for meetings. Rob has an outgoing personality, a ready smile and kind words to whom ever he meets.

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## **Antoni Henry Palecki**

*Nominated by Cambridge New Hope Housing Co-operative, Cambridge*

Antoni helps to keep the Cambridge New Hope community looking beautiful as he always cuts and maintains the grounds of the property voluntarily. Antoni has lived at the co-op for over three years and is always taking up opportunities to help out other members.

*Co-op Service Awards**2012***Alan Pickersgill***Nominated by Cole Road Co-operative Community, Guelph*

Alan Pickersgill has been an active part of the co-operative housing movement since 1985, and has been a staff person for seven years Cole Road Co-operative Community. He also acts as one of the neutral chairs guiding membership meetings for housing co-ops belonging to the Central Ontario and Peel-Halton Co-operative Housing Federations. In addition to his work with housing co-ops Alan has been a member of the Guelph Public Library Board since 2004, serving as Board Chair from 2010 to 2012. He also writes a weekly opinion column in the Guelph Tribune. He has demonstrated a great commitment to the co-op sector, and Cole Road is very excited to celebrate his contributions.

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**Helen Renaud***Nominated by Shamrock Co-operative Homes, Waterloo*

Helen has been a member of Shamrock since it opened in 1990. Helen has lived with multiple sclerosis for most of her life, and moved into her own co-op apartment from Freeport Hospital. Since then, Helen navigates through her life and the neighborhood, participating fully and volunteering as much as she can around the co-op. She shows up to all of the general meetings and is always ready to give direction and support. She is a long-time member of the social committee, and has been one of the chaperones for the children's movie nights. Often accompanied by her neighbor Linda, Helen is often seen wheeling around the co-op just picking up garbage to keep things clean and tidy. At clean-up days and Weed and Fee Days, Helen comes out to ask if she can get you something to drink, supplies, or anything else, all with a smile.

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**Lana Wong***Nominated by Waterloo Co-operative Residence, Waterloo*

Lana is an exemplary member of WCRI dedicated to her position as a director of the co-op and selfless when helping out her fellow members. She is patient in explaining to new members how the Board works and the progress that the Board is making towards ongoing projects. As the Redevelopment Committee Chair, she enthusiastically shares redevelopment-related information with members. She is an active member of the community, and engages the members to take interest in planning the future of WCRI. She is often seen with pen and paper, writing down suggestions provided by her fellow members for improving WCRI. Lana embodies the co-op spirit and should be recognized for her hard work and dedication to WCRI. Here's to Lana and her great achievements!

## The Co-operative Principles

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which housing co-operatives put their values into practice.

### **1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership**

Co-operatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

### **2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control**

Co-operatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In housing co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote).

### **3rd Principle: Member Economic Participation**

Members contribute financially to their co-operative and share in the benefits of membership. A housing co-op does not pay a return on the members' shares and deposits – instead it sets aside reserves for the future and charges the members only what it needs to operate soundly.

### **4th Principle: Autonomy and Independence**

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. They follow the laws that apply to them, and their agreements with governments or other organizations. But, the members control the co-op.

### **5th Principle: Education, Training and Information**

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, directors, and employees so they can play a full role in the life of the co-op. They inform the general public about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

### **6th Principle: Co-operation among Co-operatives**

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

### **7th Principle: Concern for Community**

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities inside and outside the co-op. They help to improve the quality of life for others and they take care to protect the environment.



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