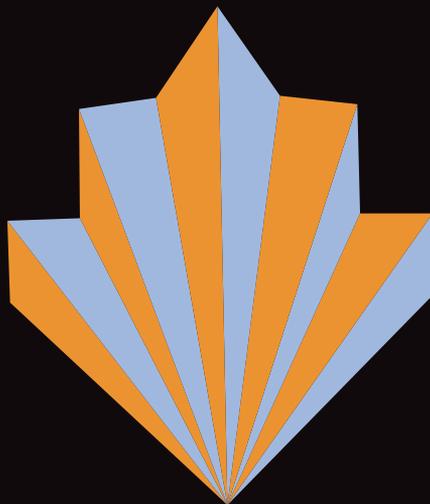




CO-OP
SERVICE AWARDS
DINNER



CELEBRATING THE HEART OF OUR
CO-OPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13TH, 2020





COCHF

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES TOGETHER.



CO-OP SERVICE AWARDS DINNER

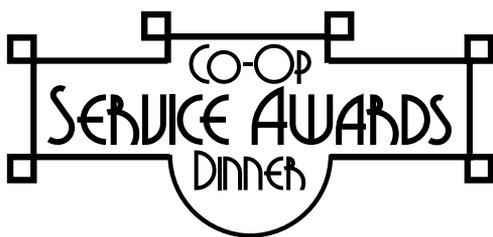
CO-OP SERVICE AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Every housing co-op has a member or staff person who has given special service that is worthy of appreciation. A Co-op Service Award is recognition for an individual (or group of members) whom their housing co-operative would like to see acknowledged by the larger sector for outstanding contributions, and has enhanced the reputation of the greater co-op movement.

COCHF started presenting the Co-op Service Awards in 2002, as a way for housing co-ops to celebrate exemplary volunteers and/or staff who demonstrate the co-operative principles and values wholeheartedly. Even though the award is presented by COCHF, these individuals have been nominated solely by their own co-op. In 2017, the federation started hosting an annual co-op service awards dinner, dedicated to honoring nominee's valued positive contributions.

Tonight, we are honoring the outstanding contributions made in 2019. Here is this evening's itinerary...





ITINERARY

6:30pm Doors open

7:00pm Dinner served (buffet-style)

7:45pm Showtime Act during Coffee/Dessert

8:00pm Co-op Service Awards Ceremony

Event ends at 9:15pm



AWARD RECIPIENTS

Asgard Green Co-operative Homes

Tim Clark

Tim Clark has been consistently volunteering his time outside of committees to keep up site appearances. Through the winter months he is always out shovelling and in the warmer months he is constantly mowing lawns and cleaning up common areas. He takes the initiative to get work done and our co-op looks and feels better for it.

Joe Healy

Joe Healy recently moved back into the co-op and has been instrumental in maintaining our units. He is a skilled plumber and has saved us many times on weekends and in the evenings. Joe has been sharing his knowledge and tries to help us find better and longer lasting solutions to everyday co-op maintenance issues while also keeping costs manageable.



AWARD RECIPIENT

Beaver Creek Housing Co-operative

Kim Rahaman

Kim Rahaman is an amazing member of Beaver Creek. Kim is always on the go doing co-op committee tasks and member tasks. Kim is on the Landscape Committee, Youth Committee, and is the chair of the Social Committee. On the Landscape Committee, Kim is the minute taker and she organizes the equipment that needs to be serviced while helping with other tasks. On the Youth Committee, Kim helps organize events for the youth. She also chairs the Social Committee meetings and helps plan events for our community.

In the spring and summer you can find Kim mowing the co-op's common grass areas and tending to Mary's Garden. In the winter, you can find Kim salting, shoveling and plowing the co-op's common areas. Kim is always willing to help where needed and does so without being asked. She never expects anything in return for her generosity. It is a pleasure to have Kim as one of our members.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Beechwood Co-operative Homes

Shelley Milatz

Shelley is the best example that all co-ops should use as the definition of co-operative living. As we are all aware co-operative living means being an active, involved member of your community. Shelley moved into Beechwood Co-operative 26 years ago and she has been a driving force in our community ever since. At this time, Shelley has just completed her second term as the co-op's president, and as a fellow board director, I can attest to Shelley's commitment to the position and its responsibilities. She ensures that all members of the board are involved, informed and encouraged to voice their opinions. Shelley can be seen in the office at the end of her workday, signing documents and addressing any issues that come up. Shelley was instrumental in Beechwood Co-op's adoption of a road. She is at every event; spring/fall clean up, summer festival, fireworks and she is always there for every member of the co-operative.

Shelley is also an integral part of a several year project to provide more affordable housing at our co-op. In 2019, Shelley worked closely with all political parties to promote this project and most recently spoke with our city council to provide much needed information. With Shelley's participation in this project, I have every confidence she will make it happen. Shelley is a vital member of Beechwood Co-operative. I don't believe that our co-op would be the success that it is today without Shelley.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Bread and Roses Co-operative Homes

Julie Armes

I would like to nominate Julie Armes for co-op member of the year! Julie is always quietly willing to lend a hand to anyone who needs it and asks for no recognition in return. Julie actively participates in semi-annual meetings, volunteers on two committees (Member Selection Committee and the Bread Committee), and has spearheaded the formation & set-up of the food pantry, thus contributing to the physical/spiritual health of co-op members.

Julie works behind the scenes to help individual members as well in the public eye. Finally, Julie avails herself of training in the wider community, contributing her knowledge to our membership. I personally admire her dedication to keeping our community a peaceful place to live, and the Board of Directors was pleased to endorse this nomination.





AWARD RECIPIENTS

Brighton Yards Housing Co-operative

Mike Lehmann

Mike Lehmann has been a dedicated and hardworking member of Brighton Yards Co-op for many, many years. He has spent 4 years on the board, 4 years on the finance committee, and a co-op member for 33 years. Mike is being nominated for his steadfast dedication on the board of directors and oversight during the co-op's construction and renovation process, while responding to upheaval from several co-op members. We are thankful to Mike for his leadership in the community during tremendous adversity in the co-op.

Laura Hunter-Duvar

Laura Hunter-Duvar has been nominated for the co-op service award for the tireless work she has put into our co-op as part of the leadership shown on the landscape committee to rebuild the community post-construction. Laura has worked hard to make the co-op look good and is always willing to help you if she can. She has implemented so many improvements not only in landscape but in other aspects of our co-op living based on her vast experience. Volunteering can be thankless and in general construction can be a big pain, and we are thankful for this lady who has gone above and beyond to make things work for a better co-op.





AWARD RECIPIENTS

Cambridge New Hope Housing Co-operative

Dan Charette

Dan is currently the board's Vice-President and a long-term member of Cambridge New Hope Housing Co-operative. He is also the liaison to the office for Niagara Peninsula Homes. You can see Dan working daily in the co-op shoveling and mowing, helping a neighbor, working on units or playing ball hockey with the kids. He is a true gem.

Debbie Whitelaw

Debbie is a Board Member at Large and has lived at our housing co-op for many years. She is always available to the membership, whether it is sharing her knowledge, helping a neighbor, or in helping to organize the co-op office. Debbie is a shining beacon of what co-operative housing is truly about.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Changemakers Co-operative Homes

Bob Kuenzig

Robert Kuenzig is a returning member to Changemakers. Bob lived here in the early 2000's and during his time here he was the treasurer. Fast forward to 2015 - Bob is retired and decides with his partner, Lenore, to return to Changemakers where they know there is always something that can be done. Here is a list of some of the things Bob has done to keep busy. Shortly after they came back, Bob ran for the Board and after getting on the Board he became the Treasurer again. Bob has now been our treasurer for the last five years with four of those also being a board director.

Bob is a retired millwright. It is natural for him to keep an eye on the maintenance side of things at Changemakers, especially building equipment. He loves to drive and is always willing to give rides to people and assist them with getting to appointments. This has been especially helpful to several of his buddies here at the co-op. When he can't sit still at home you might find him emptying out main floor garbage cans, picking up litter, or delivering material for the office. Sundays are reserved for watching NASCAR with one of the other co-op members. For his countless hours of help in our community we thank him and nominate him for this service award.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Clarion Co-operative Homes

Glenn Lehman

Glenn Lehman resides with his wife and son at unit 54. He has been a long-time member, living in the co-op for 27 years of the co-op's 27-year history. Glenn is a participating member in the community. He has been on the Board of Directors since 2007 and is presently the Vice President. Glenn is always available to do board tasks such as signing cheques, delivering notices and schedules; and chairing the monthly board meetings.

Glenn genuinely cares for the co-op community and its members. He has been an active co-op member and volunteers on the following committees: Social Committee, 20th Anniversary Celebration Committee, Playground Replacement Committee, Landscape Committee. Glenn also serves as an After-Hour Maintenance Volunteer Member. He has the true co-op spirit. No matter what is going on in his personal life, Glenn is always someone to count on in the community if help is needed.





AWARD RECIPIENTS

Cole Road Co-operative Community

Anna Wilson - In Memoriam

Anna Wilson was a very active member of our housing co-op. She sat on the Board numerous times and served as head of our Member Relations Committee. Anna was instrumental in mediating member disputes and offering advice on how to get along with other people in the co-op. She was always more than willing to volunteer for co-op activities and would help out in whatever way she could. Anna had a wonderful sense of humour, and she was a dedicated mother and grandmother. Anna passed away from cancer on December 24, 2019. We miss her every day. There is a feeling in the co-op that something is missing and it is Anna. Breanna Wilson, Anna's granddaughter will receive the Service Award on her behalf.

Marilyn Schuett (Past Co-op Member)

Marilyn was a member of our Co-op since day one of the co-op's existence in 1991. She was an active member. She helped clean units for new move in members and did unit inspections with her husband Milton. She welcomed new members and made them feel at home. Marilyn is an avid gardener. Her unit was always neat and tidy with a beautiful garden in her front yard. Her enthusiasm inspired other members to grow lovely gardens, and she was always willing to help members with their gardens, giving advice and hands on work. She was an elder member who reminded us of the historical significance of our co-op's history. Unfortunately, Marilyn had to move out of our Co-op. We miss her smiling face and her infectious enthusiasm. We are happy to honour her with this Service Award.





AWARD RECIPIENTS

Fife Road Co-operative Homes

Darlene Becksted

Darlene has been an active member of the co-op, a current board director, and assists with the co-op's internal mail delivery. Darlene is the head of the multicultural social team, as such she organizes all the events of the co-op community such as garage sales, BBQs, children's Halloween parties and is planning many more future events. Darlene planned the 2019 holiday dinner that had over 80 people in attendance including representatives from COCHF, CHF Canada, County of Wellington, and Guelph's MPP Mike Schreiner. The diverse menu included food from all over the world, with both Canadian and Halal food prepared.

Brenda White

Brenda has been a co-op member for 21 years and she has participated on all the committees that have existed over the years. She is currently on the board of directors for Fife Road Co-op and has been the emergency contact for over 2 years now. She helps Darlene with the social events by supervising children events, cooking and baking for the full community events.





AWARD RECIPIENTS

Grandview Co-operative Homes

Jorge Sousa

The Board of Directors are happy to celebrate and recognize Jorge Sousa. Jorge and his family moved into Grandview in April 2019. Immediately after moving in, Jorge was in the parking lot cleaning weeds and removing litter in front of his own block, and that of the one beside his unit as well, which inspired and motivated other members further down to do so in front of their units. Jorge has health concerns, but this did not stop him from taking it upon himself to cut down brush and branches along the neighboring fence, to make it cleaner looking but also safer for the other members who cut the grass. The Board of Directors wishes to thank Jorge for all his work and dedication to improving his new home and for being a highly involved new member of Grandview!

Lindsay Robinson

Lindsay Robinson has lived at Grandview for a number of years with her family. Lindsay is an active and vocal concerned parent, looking out for the children of the co-op. Visitors and members driving in the co-op were reminded by Lindsay and her friends of the posted speed limit of 10km/hr, helping to slow people down. Lindsay is also active in the winter. She is the first one out after most snowfalls, clearing her own walkway and those of her neighbors, as well as the sidewalk along her block. Even while recovering from a recent surgery, Lindsay was out shoveling and salting, working to keep everyone safe. Thank you Lindsay, for all you do!





David Mehlenbacher

David Mehlenbacher has lived at Grandview for a number of years, and watches over his neighbors and the co-op. Anytime anyone asks for help, David is there to lend a hand, especially if it's for the kids! David can be found almost weekly on the riding lawnmower, keeping the grass cut and looking great all season long. In the winter, David keeps an eye and adds salt to the walkways around his unit and the office to make sure everyone can walk safely. If maintenance or office staff need assistance with repairs or odd jobs, David is the first to volunteer to help. David is a big part of the co-op, and the Board of Directors is happy to recognize him with this award!

Terry Gerber

Terry Gerber is a big man, but his heart is even bigger! Terry is passionate about ensuring garbage and recycling are properly sorted; he will take hours out of his week when needed to empty, sort then wash out the recycling bins and has been known to take cardboard out of the co-op's dumpster so it can be recycled, rather than go to the landfill. Landscaping is another area where Terry can always be found helping in. Trimming and cutting the grass and trees, helping to plan ways to make the co-op look brighter and more inviting. Terry has often cleaned the curbs of leaves and debris and bagged a lot of yard waste, and has initiated community clean-ups, recruiting other members along the way. At his own expense, Terry also collects the co-op members' jack-o-lanterns after Halloween, for proper composting. Anytime maintenance staff have a larger job to be done, Terry is usually right there lending a hand, often without having to be asked. Terry, the co-op would not be the same without you and your dedication to the environment as a whole!





AWARD RECIPIENT

Max Saltsman Community Co-operative

Alex Tipple

Our Board of Directors has selected Alex Tipple for the COCHF Co-op Service Award. Listed below are some of the reasons as to why we think Alex is suited to receive this award. Alex has been a long-standing staff member of Max Saltsman Co-op. Alex has shown great leadership and performed outside of his job description when the co-op needed him.

He strives to treat all members of the co-op with equality and speaks with respect. He is friendly, approachable and is always willing to guide members and staff when required. He is very knowledgeable about co-op principles and demonstrates pride by treating the co-op as if it's his own home. Alex has demonstrated integrity in his job by following through on outstanding work orders and creating an excellent working relationship with the Senior Co-ordinator. Congratulations Alex and thanks for all you do at Max Saltsman Co-op.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Preston Heights Housing Co-operative

Bailey Kohls

It is with great pleasure that the Preston Heights Housing Co-op nominates Bailey Kohls for the 2019-2020 Co-op Service Award. Bailey has served as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for the past 5 years. In that role Bailey has assisted the community in refinancing our co-op's mortgage to provide the needed funds towards revitalizing our building structures.

During the past 3 years of major renovations, Bailey assisted in reviewing all contracts and construction plans and guided the board through these projects. During the renovations, Bailey was always available to assist the contractors when entering units and to act as the emergency contact when needed. Bailey always managed the stress of the past 3 years with a smile. This was over-and-above the numerous supports she provides the co-op and its members on a day-to-day basis. Bailey is exactly the type of member co-ops hoped to have when co-operatives were first developed.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Royal City Co-operative Homes

Pauline Busby

Pauline and her family moved into Royal City Housing Co-op in October 1996, when the co-op was just 6 years old. Since that time Pauline has been a strong foundation of the co-op. Her commitment over the years on the Board of Directors, the Member Selection Committee, the Maintenance Committee, as organizer of the seasonal clean-up days, and so much more, has been a model to all members. Pauline's depth of experience and loyalty to the community continued when, on request, she returned to the board to serve an additional six years. Pauline's mentorship and guidance to new board members has been a great asset, and has set the stage for strong, cohesive boards.

Pauline has been instrumental in maintaining communication between the board and membership with seasonal newsletters, encouraged the co-op to contract Co-operative Webs to build and maintain Royal City's website, and to stay current by using social media and email as a way to reach out to our members. Pauline's work has continued to strengthen the co-op and has truly helped build Royal City Housing Co-op to the level it is today. The co-op joins together in a hearty thank you for all the work Pauline has done over the years. This COCHF Co-op Service Award is well deserved!





AWARD RECIPIENT

Sand Hills Co-operative Homes

Julie LaMarche

Julie has been a member of Sand Hills since 2002. Over the past 18 years Julie has remained a happy and positive co-op member always ready to help her neighbors and support fellow co-op members. Julie consistently welcomes new members in the co-op with open arms, showing the facilities, letting them know local shopping choices, the nearest bus routes and letting them know that if they ever need assistance, they can call on her. Julie is the office go-to person for conducting membership interviews – she is always eager to meet new applicants and is quite proud to let them know that she has been a member for 18 years!

Julie also takes pride in her home – she has a beautiful balcony full of flowers every spring and summer and her pride extends beyond her unit to the co-op's common areas, mailroom, co-op office, and greater community. Anytime Julie is outside you will see her taking her time to pick up and clean up the co-op grounds. She makes sure the mailroom has clean recycling bins and takes care of the office recycling too! Julie's volunteer experience has expanded to the Mowat Chandler Community Centre next door. Quite often you will see Julie at the Centre either participating in a class or as a volunteer leading a class in beading! Julie LaMarche is a shining example of a co-op member and we are so happy and grateful for this opportunity to be able to thank her for all that she does for Sand Hills Co-op!





AWARD RECIPIENT

Shamrock Co-operative Homes

Wanda Cox

Wanda moved into Shamrock Co-op on April 1st 2000. She has been on the board off and on for the past 19 years. Wanda started as a board director and become co-op treasurer for many of those years. In 2018, she was president and then became treasurer again by forced from the co-op office! While she was taking her term breaks from the board, she was working with the current treasurer on showing them how to approve bank statements and sign yearly & monthly subsidy calculations. Wanda is also involved with the co-op as a member of the Newsletter Committee, Finance Committee, and WMB Alpha Committee. The purpose of her involvement on the Alpha Committee is to increase community spirit within the co-op. She is a valuable member of the co-operative in her spirit and what she does for the office and members.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Willowside Housing Co-operative

Christine McLauchlin

Christine is Willowside's superstar. She maintains all the gardens in the co-op and picks up garbage from the co-op grounds whenever she sees it, rather than just ignoring debris as so many others do. Christine washes stairwells and cleaned all our plastic light covers when we had the co-op's lighting replaced with LED bulbs.

Christine is always thinking of others and started a Christmas tradition of delivering oranges to every household in the co-op. She decorates our hallways at Halloween and Christmas. Christine has held craft events for adults and children in the co-op and she is our resident barbeque person for summer events. Christine helps in so many other ways whenever something needs to be done, too numerous to mention.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Windfield Co-operative Homes

Kris Cormier-La Belle

As a board, we have nominated Kris Cormier-La Belle to receive this year's co-op service award. We find that Kris has been a good neighbor, always helpful to those who need assistance. She has been and still is an excellent Board President and helps us to fulfill our responsibilities with order and dignity. She is fair in all her dealings with the members of the co-op, and one could say she is diplomatic as well as democratic with all members. She is a very good advocate when we have problems and issues to be addressed.

Because of her diligence and attention to detail she was able to discover the discrepancies in the quality of and quantity of work provided by the contractor who had been hired to upgrade the units. Further Kris has been a pillar of strength during the past few years while the co-op was going through a difficult time preparing for a legal battle with said contractor. Many evenings she could be found in the office along with our co-ordinator Natasha working on finding important documents for our legal representatives and many times, they were still there when I walked the dog before bedtime around 10pm and even later. Therefore, we are really pleased to nominate her for this award.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Wyndham Hill Co-operative Homes

Joan Koob

Joan has been working at Wyndham Hill Co-op for a little over 7 years. When she began, there was a lot of work to be done. Joan rolled up her sleeves and dove in. Joan is a champion at finding solutions to small issues, and the seemingly impossible ones. She has successfully led the co-op through several large capital projects and has a passion for working through all the challenges that come with them.

Joan is also helpful with members, often sitting down with them looking for solutions for them if she can. The work ethic and the energy Joan brings to the many components of her job allows her to complete her duties and look for the next challenge in providing affordable housing effectively.





AWARD RECIPIENT

Central Ontario Co-operative Housing Federation (COCHF)

Melody Alderwick

Melody has given a lot of her free time to help the COCHF office with planning and preparing for events. She looks up things on her computer to find best way to do something as well as for ideas to make an event work to its fullest. Once an idea or place is picked, she then sets up appointments or goes and gets the items needed. Melody has willingly and freely volunteered many hours of her time to make sure all is in order for the events/ AGM's. She helps with contacting people, vendors, and sponsors. Melody works hard the day of events/ AGM's making sure everyone knows where to go and to register them. She has spent many long days and never complained. Melody even travels in rain or snow, in heat or cold on her scooter to volunteer her time. She deserves this award for all her hard work and dedication.



Congratulations to this year's co-op service award recipients!

		Award Recipient
1	Asgard Green Co-operative Homes	Tim Clark
2	Asgard Green Co-operative Homes	Joe Healy
3	Beaver Creek Housing Co-operative	Kim Rahaman
4	Beechwood Co-operative Homes	Shelley Milatz
5	Bread and Roses Co-operative Homes	Julie Armes
6	Brighton Yards Housing Co-operative	Mike Lehmann
7	Brighton Yards Housing Co-operative	Laura Hunter-Duvar
8	Cambridge New Hope Housing Co-operative	Dan Charette
9	Cambridge New Hope Housing Co-operative	Debbie Whitelaw
10	Changemakers Co-operative Homes	Robert Kuenzig
11	Clarion Co-operative Homes	Glenn Lehman
12	Cole Road Co-operative Community	Anna Wilson
13	Cole Road Co-operative Community	Marilyn Schuett
14	Fife Road Co-operative Homes	Darlene Becksted
15	Fife Road Co-operative Homes	Brenda White
16	Grandview Co-operative Homes	Jorge Sousa
17	Grandview Co-operative Homes	Lindsay Robinson
18	Grandview Co-operative Homes	David Mehlenbacher
19	Grandview Co-operative Homes	Terry Gerber
20	Max Saltsman Community Co-operative	Alex Tipple
21	Preston Heights Housing Co-operative	Bailey Kohls
22	Royal City Co-operative Homes	Pauline Busby
23	Sand Hills Co-operative Homes	Julie LaMarche
24	Shamrock Co-operative Homes	Wanda Cox
25	Willowside Housing Co-operative	Christine McLaughlin
26	Windfield Co-operative Homes	Kris Cormier-La Belle
27	Wyndham Hill Co-operative Homes	Joan Koob
28	Central Ontario Co-operative Housing Federation	Melody Alderwick



The Central Ontario Co-operative Housing Federation is a federation of non-profit housing co-operatives in the cities of Waterloo, Kitchener, Cambridge, Brantford and Guelph. The federation currently has 42-member organizations that represent roughly 3,000 units of member controlled co-operative housing in the five cities in Central Ontario.

The Central Ontario Co-operative Housing Federation (COCHF) was incorporated in 1992 under the Co-operative Corporations Act. The federation was founded by local housing co-operatives to provide a means for co-ops to network with each other and offer sector resources & tools to support our membership.

COCHF's Mission Statement: We build strong communities together by offering quality services and education guided by the International Co-operative Principles to our member housing co-ops, in partnership with other supporting organizations.

Visit our website to learn more about services COCHF provides to our member housing co-operatives:
www.cochf.coop.





COCHF

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES TOGETHER.