



Volunteer Vibe



April-May 2010

VOLUNTEER WEEK – IF WE DON'T CARE NOW, WHO WILL IN THE FUTURE?

St. Michael's is blessed to have you as a volunteer! Without your gift of time, energy, caring, resources and advice, how might our future look? Yes, we care about you, and are very proud of St. Michael's volunteers – now, and especially for the future.

"THERE IS NO WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE REAL OPTIONS INVOLVED IN THE FUTURE UNLESS YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN CREATING THEM."
(Robert Theobald).

As I walk about our operations in our locations – Long Term Care Centre, Vegreville Manor, Grove Manor, Millennium Pavilion, Day Support, I am reminded daily of the great efforts of our staff, and the extraordinary efforts of our volunteers.

When I see the bright and eager look on the face of Margaret (resident) as a volunteer is wheeling her to her hairdresser appointment, I know it's an adventure. The adventure and anticipation of meeting that volunteer to go to the appointment. The conversation between the two on the journey to the salon and the joy on their faces coming back from Margaret's great hair styling afternoon. There's also the thought of the next and future appointments, which adds so much to Margaret's quality of life. Yes we care!

Then there's the group of volunteers who helped load our bus in order to take six residents in wheelchairs to a community daycare Easter concert and potluck supper (we took a big tray of cooked Baba's Own cabbage rolls). Plus seeing those same volunteers fix plates and deliver them to our residents at the big family style potluck and their concern to ensure that our residents enjoyed every minute of this outing – yes they cared!

Or the volunteers running chips at a casino, or volunteers helping with a grocery run for a resident in Spruce Grove, or being a companion at a church service in Vegreville, or the Grade Four children who volunteered to read to our residents in the Millennium Pavilion, these are just some of the activities that result in a now example, but do impact the future – and yes, we care!

As volunteers, there are many activities you can get involved in that "catch the eye" of the moment. But, it's that volunteer act that "catches the heart" – now, and for the future that we hope you'll recognize – because we do!

So no matter your age, your skill or ability, or the frequency of your commitment, or the type of activity you volunteer for – we care!

There isn't a day that goes by that we don't have a volunteer, or a group of volunteers involved with St. Michael's in some way, in some fashion and in some form. We must recognize this wonderful phenomenon and must nurture and embrace this reality!

Volunteer Week is just one week of the year to stand back and acknowledge the power and strength of the over 165,000 volunteer societies across our country and the approximately 82,000 registered charities in Canada, such as St. Michael's.

So let us recognize that the volunteers of now are shaping our future and thank you for that commitment to St. Michael's. It's not just this week, it's year round.

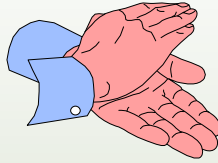
Thank you now and hope you'll continue with us in the future – yes we care!

Stan Fisher
President and CEO



Did You Know?

“Social participation through volunteering is an important factor to healthy, vibrant communities because of the interaction between community members”



We think our Volunteers are Golden!

*You are invited to our
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
May 3, 2010
Heritage Hall
5:00 p.m.*

**RSVP to Pat Wilkes
(780) 472-4534
Before April 24, 2010**



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities that offer flexible hours are available in many departments: **Recreation, Pastoral Care, Day Support, Food Services, Resident Care and Ambassador Programs.** Volunteer today and you will...

- Experience personal growth
- Feel a sense of accomplishment
- Develop new skills
- Meet new friends
- Utilize current skills
- Contribute to the community

We have many volunteer opportunities to expand your horizons and bring warmth to your heart.

If you are interested, contact Pat Wilkes at (780) 472-4534 for more information. To view details of the various positions, log on to www.smhg.ca.



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