

The Governor General's Caring Canadian Award



Robert Gould

Ottawa, Ontario

For over forty years, Robert Gould has given back to the community.

In his professional life, Robert is an intellectual property lawyer and engineer, representing some of the world's largest corporations. As a mark of this professional commitment, he has served in a volunteer capacity as President of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada and Director of the International Trademark Association. These commitments alone would have been enough to keep most people busy, but Robert has gone on to do so much more.

"He is a man of many talents," says Hayes Steinberg, who nominated him for the award. "He has used these to change the lives of people in his community, contributing children's magic shows, puppeteering, ventriloquism and theatrical productions."

Over the last thirty years, Robert has performed his shows for hundreds of charity or non-profit that benefits children. These include the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario's (CHEO) annual telethon, and its Teddy Bears' Picnic, the Ottawa International Children's Festival, the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre School and Palliative Care, to name a few.

While Robert's major impact is in the magic he performs to benefit children, he has always sought out possibilities to benefit others. As an example, he regularly performs his magic shows for developmentally-disabled adults, but will also do so for ordinary birthday parties and commercial activities provided they make a donation to local charities.

Robert has received many accolades over the years, but is especially proud of his Juno Award for contributing material to "Music Soup", which won Children's Album of the Year in 2008. Profits from this have benefitted many charities in Canada.



"Robert has been performing his unique children's show for the benefit of our young patients at CHEO," says CHEO Foundation President Suzanne Pinel, herself a beloved children's performer. "During his hospital or Ottawa Treatment Centre visits there is contagious laughter resonating. When asked why he did not pursue his

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Suzanne Pinel, CHEO Foundation President

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The Caring Canadian Award was presented to Robert Gould on April 17, 2012, at Rideau Hall. Sgt Ronald Duchesne 2012 © Rideau Hall