

The Governor General's Caring Canadian Award



Lynn Stéphanie and Marvin Lorne MacLeod

Belle River, Prince Edward Island

Lynn and Marvin MacLeod pack a one-two punch in terms of volunteer service in their native Prince Edward Island. Both are dedicated volunteers with the Canadian Red Cross, devoting an average 100 hours per month in emergency service response.



In addition to acting as Logistics Manager during the ice storm of 2008, Marvin coordinated the distribution of resources and assured that communities were well looked after. He showed outstanding leadership, managing 40 volunteers while logging some 200 hours.

Marvin's work runs the full gamut of duties. At the Service Centre he helps out with the Health Equipment Loan Program, providing clients with ambulatory equipment to meet the needs of those with mobility issues. And he does it all with a smile, compassion and understanding.

His activities aren't restricted to the Red Cross. Marvin has also served as Chair of the Belfast Community School program, choosing and managing its volunteer instructors, as an active member of the Woods Island Area Committee and as a volunteer member of the Belfast Fire Department.

Lynn MacLeod is equally giving of herself. She has acted as Regional Council Vice-President of the Prince Edward Island Red Cross, with input into programs offered to islanders. In addition to chairing the Membership Committee, she has become a Disaster Management Instructor and has trained over 50 volunteers on the Island. She has even helped out in New Brunswick, where her bilingual skills have proven invaluable. She is currently the Emergency Shelter Manager for Prince Edward Island.

Perhaps the role that gives her the greatest satisfaction is that of

Personal Disaster Assistant. She is the volunteer who arrives at the door in time of emergency, bearing blankets, food and clothing and even finding shelter for those in need. Like Marvin, she was very active during the Ice Storm, delivering resources to 12 community-based centres throughout the island.

“Both Marvin and Lynn exemplify the seven fundamental principles of the Canadian Red Cross: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality.”

Laura Montigny, Canadian Red Cross Regional Director

It is this kind of dedicated round the clock caring and compassion that make Marvin and Lynn MacLeod such worthy recipients of the Caring Canadian Award. In the words of Canadian Red Cross Regional Director Laura Montigny, “Both Marvin and Lynn exemplify the seven fundamental principles of the Canadian Red Cross: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality. These qualities are also a stellar example of volunteerism in action.”



The Caring Canadian Award was presented to Lynn Stéphanie and Marvin MacLeod on April 17, 2012, at Rideau Hall. Sgt Ronald Duchesne 2012 © Rideau Hall