

Volunteers making a difference - 2011

Celebrating Teamwork Award - Ottawa Unit Trainers

Members: Luc Leduc, Marilyn Duncan, Fran Seguin, Susan Smith, Barry Bokhaut, Susan Reid, Catherine Caule, Neville Reed, Shend Binxhiu, Ray Fortier, Laura Lafantaisie, Maria Redpath, Tom Sparling and Elaine Rotor

The Teamwork award is allotted to only one team per unit each year. In 2011, that award went to the Ottawa Unit Trainers. These 14 people deliver mandatory training to new Society volunteers. The team has been in place since 2009, when it was seen that additional recruitment of volunteers would also require additional training. Many team members are cancer survivors themselves, bringing personal experience to their training sessions. Each team member also fulfills another commitment at the Ottawa unit (driving, peer support etc.) which further enhances the skills they bring to the table. In addition to their work at the Ottawa unit, many of these volunteers have offered to train in other locations in Eastern Ontario. The team has also improved training material used across the province. Supporting each other in training sessions, and covering for each other in emergencies has made this group a true team - they truly celebrate teamwork.

Award of Achievement in Information Outreach - Maureen Tourangeau

The Award of Achievement in Information Outreach is given to only one person in Ontario East Region each year. In 2011 Maureen Tourangeau was recognized for all her work with the Society over the last 30 years. Maureen started volunteering in 1976 with the Residential Canvass and Daffodil Campaign. Later she served as the Nepean Branch President, a member of the Ottawa Unit Council, and an advocacy volunteer. Maureen has shown outstanding commitment to the Society and acted as an ambassador for the Ottawa Unit in the community. She has taken the messages of the Society to City Councillors, MPPs and MPs. She has not hesitated to use her own contacts, many of them political to advocate for healthy public policy including Smoke-Free Ottawa, a ban on the use of cosmetic pesticides and the regulation of indoor tanning salons. The Ottawa Unit is truly lucky to have her on their team.