

## Nominations for volunteer, good neighbour awards open Jan. 21

**Jan. 17, 2020** — The City of St. Catharines is looking for its own group of super heroes, and not the kind who don capes.

Nominations open Wednesday, Jan. 21, for the City's annual Volunteer and MyHoodSTC Awards. The awards, returning this year with the theme 'Not all Super Heroes Wear Capes,' recognizes volunteers and good neighbours from across the city with an evening of recognition and entertainment. This year the gala affair will take place on Tuesday, April 21, coinciding with Canada's National Volunteer Week from April 19 to 25.

"Super hero stories unfold around us every day, and not on the big screen at the local theatre," said Community and Events Supervisor Brianne Wilson, adding, "the real heroes are the volunteers and good neighbours that keep our community moving forward, they are the individuals organizing neighbourhood programs, they are the people helping out at the grassroots level."

Volunteer awards are divided into three categories, the Volunteer Recognition Award; Mayor's Adult Volunteer of the Year; and the Margaret and Robin MacLennan Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.

"Young and old alike, our community is filled with dedicated and compassionate volunteers, we're looking to residents to nominate these individuals and help us share their real-life, super-hero stories," said Wilson.

After a successful introduction last year, the MyHoodSTC Awards will also return, recognizing two residents — one Youth Award and one Connection Award — from each of the city's six wards. The MyHoodSTC Awards recognize those who have made a difference in the neighbourhood they call home.

The MyHoodSTC Youth Award applies to individuals under 25 years of age who have taken on leadership roles in their neighbourhoods, while the Connection Award salutes those who have initiated efforts and activities improving the quality of life, culture, and/or inclusivity in their neighbourhoods.

A full list of awards, and nomination forms, can be accessed at [www.engagestc.ca/VolunteerAwards](http://www.engagestc.ca/VolunteerAwards). Nominations close March 6. Nominees will receive complimentary tickets for themselves and one guest.

Visit [www.stcatharines.ca/awards](http://www.stcatharines.ca/awards) for more information.

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