



Rotary Club of West Ottawa ***Paul Harris Fellow Award¹***

Conferred on Carol Burrows, June 30, 2015

(The following text was read at the awards presentation ceremony)

With demographic trends abundantly clear, there is no doubt that the aging of our population will be a huge factor in the future of our country and city. Older people, many of whom will become the most fragile residents of our community, are not always able to help themselves, or even to communicate their need for help. And governments are increasingly unable to help. So seniors at risk require angels who will put aside their own needs and fight to help them.

Thirty-five years ago in Manor Park, one such angel took flight. She began by volunteering in community programs and then started one herself called "Your Aging Parents". The rest, as they say is history.

Our next recipient has advocated passionately for seniors' rights and to improve the quality of life for Ottawa's older residents, especially around the issue of affordable housing. She chaired the *United Way's Affordable Supportive Housing for Seniors Strategic Implementation Task Force* from 2011 to 2014.

Before that, from 2009 to 2012, she was the Chair of the Capital Campaign to raise funds for affordable and supportive housing for the residence at 314 Booth Street operated by *Cornerstone/Le Pilier Housing for Women*. That campaign raised \$2.4 million.

She has also volunteered her time and expertise on numerous community boards, committees and task forces including those of the *United Way, Champlain Local Health Integration Network, Ottawa Community Care Access Centre, Carefor Health and Community Health Services* and the *Council on Aging of Ottawa*.

She has been involved in improving the lives of seniors in our region for over three decades. Over that time she has received numerous citations and awards for her efforts, including the Council on Aging's *Margaret Griffith's Award* in 2008, the *Governor General's Caring Canadian Award*, and the Mayor's *City Builder Award*. Talk about "Service above Self." Without residents like this recipient, many of our city's seniors would have a much tougher life.

Our city must look after its' seniors, and thanks to selfless angels like Carol Burrows, it is doing so. On behalf of Rotary we would like to thank Carol for her countless hours of time, effort and service. You have made our city a better place to live. In recognition of this, the Rotary Club of West Ottawa is honoured to bestow on you a Paul Harris Fellow Award. Please come forward to receive it.

¹ Named after the founder of Rotary International, the Paul Harris Fellow Recognition program was introduced by the trustees of the Rotary Foundation in 1957 to encourage donations to the Foundation. The Rotary Club of West Ottawa adopted the program to create the Club's *Paul Harris Fellow Award*. The award recognizes individuals who have given distinguished service that exemplifies the ideals and objectives of Rotary. To bestow the award, the Club makes a contribution of \$1,000 US to the Rotary Foundation in the name of the individual to be honoured; that individual is then named a *Paul Harris Fellow* by the Foundation.

A nominee for the award who is not a member of the Rotary Club of West Ottawa must meet at least one of four criteria to be named a Paul Harris Fellow. The nominee must: 1) have made an outstanding personal or business contribution that has significantly enhanced the welfare of the community at the local, national or international level; 2) have made an outstanding personal or business contribution that has significantly improved understanding and generated mutual respect between or among people of different races, cultures or countries; 3) have performed outstanding community service in support of youth, the elderly, the underprivileged, the disabled or the developmentally challenged; or 4) exemplify the qualities of the good citizen and provide a role model of the ideal community builder.