***Awarded to David J. (Dave) Morton on June 29, 2021***

Dave Morton’s outstanding contributions of time and talent to both Rotary Projects and Community Service have produced material benefits for many in our community. The accumulated impacts of his volunteering over many years -- particularly in performing effective leadership, planning and execution functions -- distinguishes him as an ideal, and most worthy, recipient of this award.

For over ten years, he has provided exemplary service as the Chair of the Club’s Community Service Committee. Under his leadership, the Committee has disbursed “pots of gold” to organizations that serve the vulnerable in our community: organizations like the Parkdale Food Bank, Christie Lake Kids, the Salvation Army, Easter Seals…and the list goes on. And what would Rotary’s Dictionary for Life program be without him? As a senior executive of the prominent sporting goods retailer, (Bushtukah), he has, since 2011, facilitated the customs clearance and warehousing of the imported Dictionary4Life books. Moreover, he has also been active in the annual presentations of the dictionaries to Grade 3 students in selected Ottawa schools.

Let’s now turn to his fine work with the Club’s Board. Filling vacant positions on the Board has become a big challenge in “COVID” times; this is especially so for “heavy-duty” positions like Secretary and Treasurer. When no volunteers came forward to serve as Secretary for the current Rotary year (2020-21), our recipient, although very busy, stepped up and took the job. His past experience as Club Secretary in 2004-05 helped. On top of this, he agreed to serve as Club Treasurer for next Rotary Year (2021-22). Having served in this position from 2006-07 to 2009-10 (4 years), makes him a veteran for the job.

Dave Morton has also provided exemplary service in the local community outside of Rotary. In his professional life, he and his colleagues on Bushtukah’s executive team, have been in a position to encourage financial and material contributions to local charities. For example, a few years back his company provided much-needed running shoes to students at a public school in a low-income neighbourhood. As well, a donation of $15,000 to the Ottawa Riverkeeper was arranged to help mitigate the effect of road salt on the Ottawa River in Spring. Directed donations have been made to the Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa to cover registration fees for an annual women’s evening charity event, called the Sport Women Encouraging and Empowering Together event. These are only a few examples of community service he has been involved with. As a consequence of his efforts and those of his company colleagues, significant funding has been raised to support local charities to fulfil their mandates.

This award recipient epitomizes the criteria set for the Lloyd Loynes Award.

Dave Morton, please accept your Lloyd Loynes Award for Volunteer Service.