

URock Volunteer Award Selection Board

Annual Report 2011-12

Message from the Selection Board

The URock Volunteer Selection Board’s 2011-12 Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements established in the *Transparency and Accountability Act* for a Category 3 entity. The Selection Board is responsible for reviewing all qualified URock nominations received by the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat. The Selection Board chooses among the submitted nominations the most deserving candidates for the annual URock Volunteer Award. The Selection Board operates as an independent decision-making entity in fulfilling this objective.

The Selection Board is appointed by Cabinet and does not have a designated chairperson. The Board relies upon the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat (VNPS) for its administrative needs. In that capacity VNPS makes the necessary staff available to assist the Selection Board in its duties. This has included its Deputy Minister serving in a non-voting role with the committee as a representative of VNPS.

The URock Volunteer Award Selection Board assists the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador’s strategic direction of strengthening its relationship with the voluntary and non-profit sector through its work in seeking to recognize the contributions of volunteers. This Annual Report covers the period of April 1st, 2011 to March 31st, 2012.

My signature below is on behalf of the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board which is accountable for the results reported in this annual report.



Robert Thompson
Board Member
URock Selection Board

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1. Overview

The URock Volunteer Award Selection Board is comprised of eight individuals from across the province and it annually selects the recipients of the URock Volunteer Award. The board does not have a designated chairperson given the independent nature of each member's required activities. When necessary the Deputy Minister of the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat will convene a meeting to allow the selection board members to deliberate and discuss a given year's list of recipients. The Deputy Minister serves in a non-voting role with the committee and represents the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat's administrative role in the recipient selection process. The decisions made by the board are reached by consensus.

The Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat provides administrative support for the board and assists board members with their selection duties as needed. Information regarding nomination criteria for the URock Volunteer Award can be found at <http://www.urockvolunteerawards.ca/nomination-form.php>.

The URock Volunteer Selection Board is comprised of four males and four females. The selection board does not have a budget nor does it oversee any type of public funds.

2. Mandate

The mandate of the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board is to select up to eight qualified recipients for the annual URock Volunteer Award. The board may also make suggestions on policies and criteria that guide their selection process.

3. Values

The URock Volunteer Award Selection Board adopts the values of the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat as its own. The core values explain the character of the board and the action statements guide behavior. The core values of the selection board are as follows:

Collaboration	Each person is committed to being inclusive and promoting and encouraging partnerships and cooperation, and uses a consultative approach when seeking solutions.
Respect	Each person's attitude and actions will embrace difference and diversity and exemplify professional conduct in (his/her) interactions with colleagues.
Innovation	Each person applies and supports creative thinking and approaches in themselves and others.
Empowerment	Each person supports and encourages leadership, sustainability and strengthened capacity.
Vision	Each person will seek and promote/encourage progressive and imaginative thinking and solutions.

4. Primary Clients

The primary client of the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board is the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat (VNPS). The selection board undertakes the independent task of providing VNPS with up to eight qualified recipients for the annual URock Volunteer Awards recognition event.

5. Vision

The vision of the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board is to strive for a fair and meritorious selection process recognizing the most deserving nominees every year.

6. Mission

The limited nature of the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board's mandate makes a mission statement unnecessary. Since the committee is independent of the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat (VNPS) and also has a mandate different from VNPS it did not adopt the mission stated within the VNPS 2011-2014 Business Plan.

7. Report on Performance

The URock Volunteer Award Selection Board will be reporting on the same objective, measure and indicators each year in its planning cycle.

Issue One: Selecting the Annual URock Award Recipients

The URock Volunteer Award Selection Board is mandated to select the annual URock Volunteer Award recipients. The selection board may choose up to eight individuals 30 years of age or under and/or youth-led non-profit groups. The nominations process is administered by the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat which also assists the selection board with all of its administrative needs. The selection board will carry out the same objective each year of this plan covering the 2011-2014 planning period. This objective supports the strategic direction of recognizing community volunteers.

Objective

By March 31st, 2012, the URock Volunteer Award Selection Board will have met the annual commitment of reviewing URock nominations and selecting recipients.

Measure Up to eight nominations are selected to become URock recipients.

Indicators	Accomplishments 2011-12
All nominations are reviewed and considered on their merits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The selection board reviewed all nominations from the 2011-12 URock Volunteer Award submissions made to the Voluntary and Non-Profit Secretariat.

<p>URock recipients are selected on time for the annual awards show</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The selection board finalized a list of recipients in advance of the annual awards show.• On May 14 URock Volunteer Awards were presented to one youth-led group and seven individual youths in recognition of their contributions and leadership.• The profiles of the 2011 URock Volunteer Award recipients are available in Appendix 2.
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Appendix 1: Strategic Directions

Outcome Statement: Stronger relationship between government and the voluntary and non-profit sector.

Components of Strategic Direction	This Direction is addressed:			
	In the entity's Activity Plan	In the entity's operational plan	In a work plan for the entity	Applicable to other entities reporting to the Minister
Recognize the work of community volunteers	X			

Appendix 2: Profiles of 2011-12 URock Volunteer Award Recipients

Recipient	Bio
<p>Bishops College Youth Action Committee</p>	<p>This youth-led group has spearheaded fundraising and awareness building efforts on issues of local, national and international concern. In addition to fundraising in excess of \$11,000 to support the Children’s Wish Foundation; the school has consistently supported local initiatives like VOCM’s <i>Coats for Kids Drive</i>; Iris Kirby House and CYN’s <i>Street Reach</i> program just to name a few. Their contributions to the global community have been equally impressive. Annually, the group fundraised thousands of dollars to support the work of: War Child Canada, Oxfam Canada, World Vision’s 30-Hour Famine and The Red Cross’s Help for Haiti Fund. They’ve also partnered with other school groups and been actively involved in the Gay-Straight Alliance and helped organize Bishops College’s first “Purple Week”.</p> <p>Melanie Lynch and Tyler Dalton accepted the Award on behalf of the group.</p>
<p>Bridgette Abbott Age: 20 From: Musgrave Harbour</p>	<p>A former School Council President, Youth Center Secretary and Assistant volleyball coach from Musgrave Harbour. In recent years Bridgette has been an active volunteer with many causes including: the <i>Terry Fox Run</i>, <i>Go Blue Day for Juvenile Arthritis</i> as well as having organized and fundraised for Samaritan’s Purse <i>Operation Christmas Child</i> program. Now attending Memorial University, Bridgette continues to devote many hours to the charities near to her heart, including: the <i>Canadian Cancer Society</i>, <i>The Heart and Stroke Foundation</i> as well as the <i>Children’s Wish Foundation</i>. Bridgette along with 35 other students has also participated in the “Experience Labrador” program.</p>
<p>Corey Hudson Age: 23 From: Norman’s Cove- Long Cove</p>	<p>Corey has been an active volunteer in his home community of Norman’s Cove since he was 12 years old. In 2000 he received the Canada Day Youth Award. When enrolled as a student in the College of the North Atlantic’s Civil Engineering Technologist program, Corey took his skills to New Orleans to assist in the Hurricane Katrina clean-up efforts. Upon graduation, he returned to New Orleans in 2009 and again in 2010 to assist in the rebuilding and inspection of city infrastructure. In his home community he is an</p>

	<p>active member of the Norman's Cove-Long Cove Volunteer Fire Department and in 2009-10 was selected as firefighter of the year. Corey currently serves on the Town Council of Norman's Cove-Long Harbour and is notably the youngest member ever to serve on council.</p>
<p>Courtney Young Age: 17 From: Port Saunders</p>	<p>Courtney is a Level II student at French Shore Academy in Port Saunders. She is currently a Wellness Ambassador with Western Health and a member of the G.I.R.L.S. (Girls Initiative Involving Life Skills) and has prepared and delivered workshops for Grade 7-9 females on the issues of self esteem, bullying and dating violence. Courtney continues to lend her voice to issues of youth justice and is an active volunteer with a number of youth justice groups including the national DEAL.org initiative which advises the RCMP on policies and programs that affect youth. Courtney has remained an active volunteer with the Limestone Barrens Youth Ambassador program and still finds time to volunteer with her church.</p>
<p>Johnathon Earle Age: 25 From: Red Bay, Labrador</p>	<p>Johnathon is from Red Bay on the south coast of Labrador. As an active member of SIFE, Johnathon's guidance and vision were instrumental in the success of two key projects: Moulder of Dreams (a pottery studio that today employs five persons with Myotonic Dystrophy) and THINK GREEN (a recycling business for grade six students). Johnathon has also been a member of the Youth Advisory Panel advising government on its Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy. In June 2009 Johnathon became 1 of 12 youth to receive the prestigious National Aboriginal Role Model Award.</p>
<p>Juliette Dupre Age: 20 From: St. Lawrence</p>	<p>Juliette is from St. Lawrence but has traveled the world as an active volunteer. As a student at McGill University she has put her skills to good use helping those in need. She spent the summer of 2010 teaching English at the Katitawa School in Salasaca, Ecuador; later that year she ran the 42km Montreal Marathon to raise funds for the very same school. As a long standing Sea Cadet Juliette has received numerous honors and awards recognizing her contributions. A former Miss Teen Achievement and recipient of the prestigious Lester B. Pearson Scholarship, Juliette is presently pursuing field studies in East Africa. It is clear that her contributions continue to touch the lives</p>

	of many here and abroad.
Kara Snow Age: 22 From: St. Anthony	Kara has been an active volunteer and voice for youth in countless organizations at the local and provincial level. Her interests are wide ranging but demonstrate a particular focus on youth empowerment and economic development. Kara has served as: Vice President with the Nordic Economic Development Youth Council, youth representative on the Provincial Council of the Rural Secretariat and a member of the Youth Advisory Panel. Most recently she has joined the Youth Partnership Forum which will oversee and monitor the Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy. Despite her extensive commitments Kara continues to volunteer with the St. Anthony <i>Kids Eat Smart</i> program.
Liam Kelly Age: 22 From: Paradise	Liam is from Paradise and a former President of SIFE Memorial; a non-profit organization aimed at harnessing student led initiatives to improve the quality of life for those most in need. Liam's work with SIFE was instrumental to the success and nationally replicated <i>Think Green</i> initiative which has inspired thousands of students to become environmental champions. Liam continues to be an active member of <i>St. John's Clean and Beautiful</i> and is also the youth representative on the Economic Roadmap Committee for the future of St. John's. He has received numerous awards for his contributions to SIFE in national and international competitions. He is also a member of the Sea Hawks soccer team and former member of the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble Choir.