



Peace Week Media Release
For Immediate Release
November 12, 2019

YMCA of Fredericton Peace Week (November 16 – 23, 2019)

YMCA Peace Week is a time when we celebrate the presence of peace in our communities, and reflect on the peace-building work that happens all year round, both inside and outside the YMCA. The Peace Medallion was developed in 1987 by the International Committee at the YMCA of Fredericton and has since been adopted by YMCAs across Canada.

As part of YMCA Peace week, YMCAs across Canada present the YMCA Peace Medallion to individuals or to a group, who, without any special resources, status, wealth or position, demonstrate a commitment to the values of PEACE through contributions made within their local, national or global community.

This year, the YMCA of Fredericton is pleased to announce that the recipient of the Peace Medallion is the Nashwaaksis Y Service Club. The Nashwaaksis Y Service Club, formally known as “The Nashwaaksis Y’s Men’s Club” has served Fredericton North since the early 1960s with a focus on the local community. In 1961, the club started by building and maintaining an outdoor hockey rink at Park Street School. This was so successful, that the Nashwaaksis Recreation Council was established shortly after. From here, a second outdoor rink was established at McAdam Avenue School and soon enough, the demand soon outgrew the facilities and in 1969, the enclosed Nashwaaksis Arena was opened. To acknowledge the Nashwaaksis Y’s Men’s Club’s efforts, the Village Council awarded the club the upstairs of the arena to be used as a club meeting hall and community room. Moreover, the club was awarded the canteen which would be operated by members and volunteers. This provided the club with another avenue for fundraising and is still a popular means of fundraising for the community nowadays.

In 2007, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Fredericton recognized the club’s positive impact on the community and provided the club with a headquarters at Willie O’Ree Place on Cliffe Street. To this day, the club still manages and operates the arena’s canteen.

In 2013, the club voted to change its name from the Nashwaaksis Y’s Men’s Club to the Nashwaaksis Y Service Club in order to reflect the diverse membership of both men and women. The club has also expanded its fundraising avenues by offering community breakfasts at Willie O’Ree Place, advertising on the arena boards, and selling Christmas trees in the Main Street Home Hardware parking lot. The funds that are raised are used to support and sponsor youth social programs, sports programs and music programs for elementary, middle and high school students. In return, a number of youth groups and sports teams help staff the canteen and assist at the monthly community fundraising breakfasts. Club members also volunteer within the local community and provide a positive service when they drive local seniors on a weekly basis.

The YMCA of Fredericton and our entire community is thankful for all of the hard work and dedication of the Nashwaaksis Y Service Club.