

STAFF REPORT



To: Council
From: Adam Dedrick, Director of Recreation & Parks
Approved by: Warren MacLeod, CAO
Date: April 22, 2026
Subject: Provincial Volunteer Representative 2026

Origin

Each year the Municipality selects an individual or group to be the recipient of the Provincial Volunteer Representative Award.

Recommendation

That Council of the Municipality of the District of Shelburne approve Frances Scott as the recipient of the 2026 Provincial Volunteer Representative Award.

Background

The Provincial Representative Volunteer Award recognizes an individual, couple, or group of volunteers who has made a significant contribution to, and shown continued support of, the local community. The recipient is recognized locally during Volunteer Week in April and at the Provincial Volunteer Awards held in September.

Discussion

The Nominating Committee consists of staff members from the Department of Recreation & Parks and the Department of Economic and Community Development. It is the committee's recommendation that Frances Scott be the recipient of the 2026 Provincial Volunteer Representative Award, representing the Municipality.

Frances Scott, known to many as "Fran", has been a lifelong volunteer, brought up in a family with the belief that you are inclined to give back to your community. And she has done exactly that and continues to do so. Fran's volunteering began as a youth in high school with numerous committees which started her on her path to community involvement. Sports was also a starting point, with one of her earliest roles as the head coach of a youth baseball team at only 16 years old. She went on to coach various ages of baseball over the years.

Sports and athletics have always been a large part of Fran's life. She volunteered with the Southwest Nova Track & Field Club which represented Shelburne/Yarmouth areas from 190-1986. During that same time, she volunteered at the Nova Scotia Marathon, working at the aid stations, supplying the runners with water or whatever they needed.

In 1983 she recognized a need and started the Shelburne County Special Olympics. For many years she was the Area Coordinator, a role that would also be held by her brother and her sister. In what may be one of her longest roles as a volunteer, she has been a basketball coach for the last 23 years in Lockeport schools. She started as a grade 6 coach, then various ages but most recently has been the Seniors Boys Basketball coach at Lockeport Regional High Schools for the past 7 years.

Fran's volunteering goes beyond sports back to when she was at ACADIA University. For two years she was the set designer for MusACADIA Program that included shows such as Grease and Guys & Dolls. She was involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters for many years, starting as a Big Sister in 1983 and eventually holding various positions on the board over a five year period. For the last ten years Fran has been Chair of the Shelburne County Learning Network with her involvement spanning 30 years in various executive positions. She is also the Chair of the Harmony Bazaar and has helped support the festival since it started 22 years ago. And up until a few years ago, she did traffic control at the Lockeport Sea Derby for ten years.

Fran's volunteering, kindness and community involvement has had a lasting impact on many people from many places, but especially in Eastern Shelburne County.