

Scouts Canada's Investiture Ceremony

by Lena Wong

AMID THE MARBLE AND PLUSH red environment of the Senate Chamber on Parliament Hill on February 24, 2007 in Ottawa, a small group of people gathered for a historic investiture ceremony, presided over by Scouts Canada's Chief Commissioner, Glenn Armstrong. Lieutenant-Commander Terrence Christopher, Usher of the Black Rod in the Senate, assisted by introducing each recipient and reading out their citations. Lieutenant-Commander Christopher is the 14th appointee to his historical position as an Officer of the Senate and he also serves as Badge Secretary for a Scout Troop in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. The Honourable John Baird, P.C., M.P. – Minister of the Environment was on hand to present each of the recipients with their citations and certificates after the presentation of their medals.

Above all else, the stars of the day were the award recipients who received their recognitions in the company of their families and friends.



Photos: Jin Chen, J.C. Photo & Graphic Service



JACK CORNWELL DECORATION

(For having undergone great suffering in a Heroic Manner)

Andrew Dunn, Conception Bay South, Newfoundland (age 11)

Despite serious painful illness and incredible challenges, Andrew has shown unwavering commitment to Scouting even while fighting for his life. Through it all, he has maintained a high level of Scouting spirit and perseverance. Andrew is an inspiration and an excellent role model to his peers. (At the Prime Minister's request, Andy and Stephen Harper meet. See below.)

Jonathon Robert Gordeyko, Calgary, Alberta (age 13)

Serious physical challenges have been Jonathon's companions since birth and he has undergone a great deal of suffering for a long period of time. In spite of this, Jonathon always has a smile on his face and constantly inspires his peers and the adults in his life.



Trevor Hume, Ajax, Ontario (age 10)

Through serious injuries and a long recovery period, Trevor has shown great responsibility, determination and inspiration while maintaining his enthusiasm despite the pain and disabilities he has endured. His high character and demeanour make him a wonderful role model for his peers.



SILVER CROSS *(for gallantry)*

Mrs. Kathlene Dixon, Ste. Therese, Quebec

On that terrible day at Dawson College in Montreal, Kathlene was dropping her daughter Meaghan off at school when a gunman started shooting at students. With no thought of her own safety, Kathlene put herself between the bullets and her daughter. When it was all over, Meaghan had bullet wounds to her arm and body and bullets had gone through Kathlene's handbag. There is no doubt that Kathlene's actions may have saved her daughter's life.



Cathy Mcwilliams, Peterborough, Ontario

While setting up camp, one of Cathy's sons fell into the fast-flowing body of water at Arrowhead Provincial Park. Without hesitation, Cathy followed him into the water where she struggled to get him safely on shore. Cathy was then swept over several chutes to a pool. The drop shattered her left leg and she had to be taken by air ambulance to a Toronto hospital for surgery. Cathy's fast thinking and action saved her son's life.



MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

(for especially meritorious conduct not involving heroism or loss of life)

Marc-Alexandre Webb, Mississauga, Ontario (age 7)

While swimming with his Beaver Colony, Marc-Alexandre spotted a fellow Beaver at the bottom of the pool. Marc-Alexandre lifted his friend out of three feet of water and alerted the lifeguard of the emergency. Marc-Alexandre showed quick thinking and bravery coming to the aid of a fellow Beaver, thus saving his life.



By Special Request...

For a Scout from Conception Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, Andrew Dunn thought the ceremony when he was awarded the Jack Cornwell Award was pretty exciting. But the next day, as he and his family were preparing to return home, they had an even bigger surprise. Prime Minister Stephen Harper was calling to request a meeting with Andy. When Andy entered his office, the Prime Minister was leaning on his desk. Andy walked over to him and offered his left hand in the Scouting Handshake. Harper smiled, shook his hand and then the two sat down like old friends for a conversation. What a perfect ending for a wonderful event.

**Evan Salmon,
North York,
Ontario (age 13)**

While biking in the East Don Parkland, Evan's father hit a log and was thrown off his bike landing on his head; his helmet breaking on impact. Evan used a cell phone to call his mother who in turn called emergency services. Evan kept his dad awake and warm and was able to guide the EMS personnel into the bush area where the accident had occurred by shouting out directions. Evan demonstrated an outstanding reaction to a dangerous situation and certainly helped prevent more serious injury to his father.



**Ms. Wendy Hayes,
Ottawa, Ontario
Mr. Philip Duncan
Vanwissen,
Ottawa, Ontario**

While returning home from a winter Cub camp, a fellow Cub leader complained of a headache and double vision and asked Wendy to drive his truck. Asking to stop, the sick leader collapsed in the snow and shortly after stopped breathing. Philip started artificial respiration while Wendy monitored the victim's heart rate and stayed on the cell phone with emergency services. Philip's and Wendy's co-leader had suffered an aneurism to the back of the head and their quick action probably saved his life.



**Thomas Cartwright, Toronto, Ontario (age 16)
Nathan Chin, Toronto, Ontario (age 16)
Chantal Clark, Toronto, Ontario (age 16)
Jared Johnstone, Toronto, Ontario (age 16)
Mr. John Chin, Toronto, Ontario (leader)
Mr. Ron Rybowski, Toronto, Ontario (leader)**

During an overnight canoe trip several Scouts, Venturers and their leaders came across a group of inexperienced canoeists stranded wet and cold on a small island in inclement weather with high winds and dropping temperatures. The canoeists were beginning to suffer from exposure and hypothermia was not far off. This group of MEDVENTS and their leaders went beyond the call of duty using their Scouting and medical skills to avert a potential tragedy.

**Mr. Nicholas Chunys,
Prince Albert,
Saskatchewan**

While returning home early in the morning from an overnight work assignment, Nicholas and his partner came across a serious accident and found an unconscious woman who was trapped in her car. Nicholas used his first aid training to communicate with emergency services while he stabilized the victim as well as he could. Dressed in only a work uniform and jacket, Nicholas stayed with the woman in -38 degrees wind chill until the ambulance arrived and he could hand the patient over to paramedics.



SILVER FOX

(for service of the most exceptional character to Scouting in the international field, performed by persons who are not members of Scouts Canada.)

**Mr. Jørgen Guldborg-
Rasmussen,
Lenzburg, Switzerland**

Jørgen joined Scouting at the age of eight and has been deeply involved since. He worked for a while as the first European Scout Executive and later for the World Scout Bureau. After returning to his profession in the industrial sector, he continued Scouting as a volunteer as the International Commissioner for Denmark. He dedicated a large part of his work to the Africa Region and was one of the initiators of the African Scout Foundation which he still actively supports. He is currently the Chair of the World Honours & Awards Committee and President of the European Region Foundation. Jørgen received the Bronze Wolf from the World Organization of the Scout Movement in 1993 and The Order of Dannebrog (a Danish Royal Order of Chivalry) in 2003.



**Mr. Francois Malouin,
Nicolet, Quebec**

Francois helped forge a strong and cooperative relationship between l'association des Scouts du Canada and Scouts Canada as International Commissioner of l'association des Scouts du Canada. He initiated the first Francophone National Scouts Associations' meeting and instigated a liaison bulletin, *Francophonie Scoute International* first published in 2001. He encouraged Venturers and Rovers to undertake community service outside Canada, and as a result, l'Association des Scouts du Canada has a strong program in place. In his profession as a teacher, Francois has escorted many young student groups in community development projects to several South American countries.



SILVER WOLF

(for service of the most exceptional character to Scouting, normally of national importance)

The Honourable Senator Consiglio Di Nino, Toronto, Ontario

Con has provided tremendous support to Scouting both nationally and locally. He has been a Director of the Scouts Canada Foundation since its inception in 2000 and serves on several other committees. Con plays a major role in youth ceremonies and the Adult Recognition Ceremony for Scouting in Greater Toronto. Senator De Nino has been active in his assistance to pass the new Scout Act Legislation. He continues to provide valuable advice at all levels.



Mr. Richard Carey Druce, Victoria, British Columbia

Richard has given great service to Scouting at the local, council, provincial and national levels for more than 30 years. As Provincial President, Richard provided strategic direction to British Columbia and the Yukon in a vast area that presents difficult challenges in bringing people together. During his four years on the National Board, he was helpful in producing policies and by-laws of significance across the country. During 2005-2006, Richard carried out a bike ride of 7,821 km across Canada raising a total of \$18,000 to be used for Scout camps across the country, the Canadian Scout Brotherhood Fund and Scouts Canada's Foundation.



Mr. Egbert Runge, Toronto, Ontario

As a member of Scouts Canada as well as the Estonian Scout Federation, Egbert was instrumental in keeping Estonian Scouting active and involved with the World Organization of the Scout Movement during a time when Scouting was not allowed in that country. After the re-emergence of Scouting in Estonia, Egbert has represented Estonian Scouting on an international level. As a member of Scouts Canada's National Council he gave voice to his community and maintained good relations between the two associations. Egbert's dedication to the Estonian Scout Movement and Scouts Canada has been monumental and will have a lifetime effect.



Mr. Michael Scott, Vancouver, British Columbia

Mike showed great leadership as Chief Commissioner and Chair of the Board of Governors through a very challenging time in Scouts Canada. He is the first volunteer to fully experience the change in structure that saw the role of National President eliminated and one



person (Chief Commissioner) assuming overall responsibility for all aspects of Scouting in Canada. Mike's message has always been to motivate all members to focus on the Section Scouter as the key ingredient to the delivery of a quality program. Mike continues his tradition of leadership in his current role as Contingent Leader for the Canadian Contingent to the 21st World Scout Jamboree.

Mrs. Marion Zaichkowski, Riverview, New Brunswick

"Zack" recently received the pin for 55 years of service in Scouts Canada. During this time she has touched many lives with her positive, can-do attitude. She has attended several National and local jamborees as a leader and volunteer. At the international level, "Zack" has touched the lives of hundreds of African children who, through her fundraising efforts, were able to come off the streets and join Kenya's Extension Scouts Program (formerly Street Scouts). "Zack" has headed up fund raising for this program raising well over \$50,000. "Zack" has made a tremendous difference in the lives of many young people and continues to do so through her work as a member of the International Relations Committee.



SILVER MAPLE LEAF

(for service to Scouting in excess of 25 years as a member of the executive staff. Awarded at retirement.)

Mr. Robert C. Butcher, Ottawa, Ontario

Bob's professional career started in 1967 as a Field Executive and later Assistant Executive Director for the National Capital Region. This was followed by other roles as National Program Director, Communications Director and *Leader Magazine* Editor. Later Bob became Executive Director of International Relations and Special Events and in this capacity his natural tact and diplomacy helped Scouts Canada establish and maintain positive relations with numerous other National Scout Associations.



Mr. Robert Dyer, Calgary, Alberta

Bob's professional career started in British Columbia in 1976 as a Field Executive for the then BC/Yukon Provincial Council. He later transferred to the Ontario Provincial Council as Director of Administration. Bob moved back west to Alberta in 1990 where he has filled various positions with the Southern Alberta and Chinook Councils in Calgary. Scouts Canada has been well served by Bob for thirty years.



Before they knew it, their special time was over. Now it was time for refreshments, congratulations, hugs and conversation. Like one big family, those present rejoiced in the honour bestowed upon their Scouting members. X
- Lena Wong administers the National Honours and Awards program.