

**For Immediate Release****Celebrating the 2026 Volunteer of the Year Award Winners in Olds**

Olds, Alta. **May 4, 2026** – Volunteers are the heartbeat of any strong community, and in Olds, their impact is seen, felt, and deeply appreciated every day. From supporting local organizations to leading meaningful initiatives, volunteers help create a connected, compassionate, and thriving community.

In recognition of National Volunteer Week 2026, the Town of Olds and the Community Connections Centre proudly celebrated this year's Volunteer of the Year Award recipients. This year's national theme, Ignite Volunteerism, highlights the importance of civic participation, strengthening volunteer networks, and sharing the stories that inspire others to get involved. Across Olds, individuals continue to ignite volunteerism through their dedication, leadership, and willingness to give back.

Award winners and nominees were honoured at a luncheon held on May 1 at the Pomeroy Inn & Suites, bringing together community members to celebrate the incredible contributions of volunteers.

"The generosity, compassion and willingness of the volunteers in Olds make us a stronger, more connected place. We are proud to recognize the nominees and all the people who give so much to others." said Mayor Dan Daley

"Volunteers play an important role and a lot of what happens in Olds just isn't possible without their time and effort," said Community Development Supervisor Heather Dixon. "We're fortunate to live in a community where so many people give their time to support others, and we were grateful to celebrate both the volunteers and the organizations they represent."

**Senior Volunteers of the Year (Tie):****Jack Fewster – Kiwanis Club of Olds**

Jack Fewster has been a cornerstone of the Kiwanis Club of Olds for a decade, including eight years as Treasurer. His careful financial stewardship ensures accountability and trust, while his proactive approach helps move funding quickly to community initiatives.



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Linda Reade – Olds & District Evergreen Centre, IODE, and Girl Guides**

Linda Reade's decades of service reflect an unwavering commitment to her community. Whether organizing events, managing finances across multiple organizations, or supporting programs Linda brings both skill and heart to everything she does.

### **Citizen Volunteer of the Year**

#### **Levi Ogilvie – Olds Minor Hockey Association**

Levi Ogilvie has made a significant impact on minor hockey in Olds through both strategic leadership and hands-on commitment. Levi championed the growth of female hockey, developing partnerships, securing sponsorship, and helping establish teams across multiple age groups. His work has created new opportunities and continues to shape the future of female hockey in Olds.

### **Youth Volunteer of the Year**

#### **Mateya Sept – Ecole Olds High School**

Mateya Sept is a quiet yet powerful leader whose influence is felt throughout her school and community. Actively involved in student leadership, athletics, and the arts, she consistently steps forward to support events and initiatives.

### **Recognizing All Nominees**

The Volunteer of the Year Awards also recognize the outstanding contributions of this year's nominees: Katie Dunn (Hope 4 MVC Kids), Shannon Powell (Mountain View Moccasin House), Joe Berreth (Olds Amateur Lacrosse), Sieka Boom (Olds & District Evergreen Centre), Ben Jensen (Special Olympics Olds & District), Greg Wiens (Olds and Area Pregnancy Centre), and Sandra Hanson (Mountain View Special Riding Association). Each nominee plays an important role in strengthening the fabric of the community.

As Olds celebrates these remarkable individuals, their stories serve as a reminder of the power of volunteerism. Through their actions, they continue to ignite a spirit of giving, inspiring others to get involved and make a difference.



## NEWS RELEASE

Learn more about our amazing volunteers and the winners at

[www.olds.ca/volunteerappreciation](http://www.olds.ca/volunteerappreciation).

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