

For Immediate Release:



Parent Volunteer Honoured

(Winnipeg, May 13, 2019) – *Sun Valley School Parent Council* volunteer, Shannon Hiebert, was awarded the *Judy Aiken Memorial Award* by Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) at its Annual Conference on May 04, 2019 at the Niakwa Country Club in Winnipeg.

For the past 13 years, Ms. Hiebert has served as a volunteer on the Sun Valley School Parent Advisory Council (River East Transcona School Division) in various roles, most outstandingly as Vice Chair for 4 years and as Chairperson for the past 2 years. In addition to being the Chairperson, her volunteer work includes:

- Involvement with several sub committees including Community Relations, Fundraising, Playground Enhancement and Staff Appreciation
- helping raise over \$30,000 annually for the past 5 years for several initiatives
- Spearheading a plan that over saw the development of their new \$250,000 Phase 1 Playground Enhancement project and is now undertaking Phase 2
- Planning the annual month-long staff appreciation events for over 50 staff
- Serving on a Junior High Parent Council as Chairperson where she has organized a variety of fundraisers that helped them consistently fulfill their school's wish list.
- Serving as Registrar with a Nursery school, in a demanding and time consuming role that included promoting the school to the community and working with newcomer families, often spending extra time with these families to ensure they understood the processes of the Nursery School.
- Joining the efforts of a Community Club carnival that was at risk of being cancelled due to lack of organizers. Shannon responded with her typical, "what can I do" and because of her volunteerism, the carnival carried on for several more years.

"Kind, generous, committed, modest, hard-working and insatiably energetic are just a few words to describe Shannon", states nominator and fellow PAC member, Barb Bogen. "She is an engaging leader, mentor, colleague and cheerleader. When new ideas are brought to the table, Shannon is behind all of them. She is organized, passionate, tireless and positive. The centre point to Shannon's compass always points to the needs of others and the collective good that comes from making her community a better place."

Nominations were also received for Kimberly Craig, Angus McKay Community School (River East Transcona School Division) and Heather Pachet, JB Mitchell School (Winnipeg School Division). Each nominee was commended for their exemplary service, contributions, and volunteerism in their respective school communities.

The Judy Aiken Memorial Award was established in 2004 to honour the memory of Judy Aiken - a long standing member of the Manitoba Home and School Parent Teacher Federation which later became MAPC. Ms. Aiken's family and MAPC established the award to recognize exceptional individuals who, through their actions and efforts on behalf of their school parent associations, have made a significant contribution to their school community.

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and enhancing meaningful involvement of parents and caregivers within school communities, representing their voice to all educational stakeholders to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

For more information, please contact:

Brenda Brazeau, Interim Executive Director
Manitoba Association of Parent Councils
Email: info@mapc.mb.ca
Phone: (204) 956-1770 or 1-877-290-4702
www.mapc.mb.ca