



Another year of stellar community engagement

The Community Achievement Award (CAA) recognizes the amazing community efforts of our advisors from coast to coast and makes a direct tie to the seventh co-operative principle – Concern for Community.

It is our pleasure to congratulate the 5 regional winners from 2016. We thank all our dedicated advisors for their commitment to making our communities stronger, safer and more sustainable.

Region	2016 Winner
Atlantic	Rhonda Nugent (Conception Bay, NL)
Quebec	Karine Bélanger (Saint-Hubert, QC)
NEWOR (North/East/Western Ontario)	Fabien Jagoo (Sarnia, ON)
COR (Central Ontario)	Senthooran Punithavel (Scarborough, ON)
WEST	Colleen Carey (Vulcan, AB)

Rhonda Nugent

In 2016, Rhonda received the “Bright Business Award” for business start-up of the year. She was recognized by her municipality as excelling in business, volunteerism and activism. Rhonda was instrumental in helping raise funds, on behalf of The Co-operators, for the Janeway Children’s Hospital in St. John’s. In addition, Rhonda and her staff donate their time and money to: The Conception Bay South “3 Hour Clean-up Challenge”, Central Avalon Ground Search and Rescue, Tim Horton’s Camp Day, McDonald’s McHappy Day, the Canadian Diabetes Association, and Salvation Army, to name a few.

Karine Bélanger

In May and again in October, Karine and her team participated in two LEUCAN Shaved Head Challenge events that were held in her region. The purpose of these events, that are held across Quebec throughout the year, is to gather donations for cancer-stricken children and their families. In August, Karine organized, for the third year in a row, a blood drive in collaboration with Hema Quebec. Finally, Karine and her staff participated in her municipality's Halloween event by preparing bags of allergy-free candies for children as part of the Teal Pumpkin Project, an initiative launched in 2014 that encourages people to raise awareness of food allergies and promotes inclusion of all trick-or-treaters throughout the Halloween season.

Fabien Jagoo

Fabien is an outgoing and passionate individual who is involved in his community in a wide range of activities. Fabien's main charity, and one that is close to his heart, is Cystic Fibrosis (CF). Three of Fabien's children are afflicted with this disease and he has put his energy into supporting the search for a cure. For the past eight years the Jagoo Agency has organized a large charity BBQ and silent auction which has raised over \$300,000 for Cystic Fibrosis. And annually, Fabien hosts and DJs two cruises (one for children and one for adults) to raise funds for CF. In addition, Fabien works with Junior Achievement to help empower youth, raises funds for a residential home for adolescent boys with complex needs, donates to the Awesome Foundation to fund innovative ideas, and supports families in need at Christmas time through Inn of the Good Shepard. Not only does Fabien encourage his staff to give back, he also provides assistance to MADD, the Kidney Foundation, St. Joseph's Hospice, Canadian Cancer Society and YMCA, just to name a few. Once a year, Fabien and his team shuttle seniors from their cars to the arena for the Home Show.

Senthooran Punithavel

Those who know Senthu describe his as thoughtful, compassionate and caring. He is an example to others and is always ready to lend support or a helping hand to anyone that is in need. Senthu believes he has a responsibility as a citizen to be supportive of both community and those that are in need. And, he is a man of action through his personal involvement with numerous committees and boards, like his board position with the Providence Health Center which is a leading health care facility in Toronto. He volunteers for the Tamil Isai Kala Manthram, the Richmond Hill Hindu Temple, Tamil Senior Center, SACEM (provides services to the Tamil community to help them integrate into Canadian society while preserving their culture), Canadian Tamil Chamber of Commerce and for CanTYD (a non-profit organization dedicated to youth empowerment in the Tamil-Canadian community). Senthu contributes a significant amount of time, energy and money to many organizations in his humble way, looking only to embody the beliefs and values of a good leader, citizen and person that is grateful for what they have in life.

Collen Carey

Despite having joined The Co-operators just five years ago, Colleen has distinguished herself as a committed and passionate community advocate. Colleen believes that genuine and engaged community involvement is key to being a successful business owner, in fact, it's what drew her to The Co-operators in the first place. In Colleen's own words, "To make a living in our communities it is important to give back in a monetary way but also to give your time to help our communities thrive and be great places to live."

2016 was a busy year for Colleen and her staff. Here's just a sample of their community initiatives: The Vulcan Tinman Triathlon; Soccer Club of Vulcan County; Vulcan Brand Innovation Team; Board Member of Vulcan tv; Chairperson of KidSport Vulcan County; Volleyball Head Coach at County Central High School; Vulcan County Early Childhood Coalition; RCMP Golf Tournament and 4-H Clubs, to name a few.