
Media Release

For Immediate Release

December 5th 2024

Volunteer Waterloo Region works with its community partners to thank volunteers in Waterloo Region

WATERLOO REGION – On December 5th, International Volunteer Day, Volunteer Waterloo Region (VWR) came together with our local mayors and Regional Chair to recognize volunteers across the Region of Waterloo. Our Community Cares is now an annual local volunteer appreciation event recognizing the contribution of volunteers to all aspects of our community. From healthcare to sports and recreation, arts and culture to the environment, social services to faith communities and so much more, our community relies on the skills, talents and commitment of our volunteers.

This marks the third annual occurrence of the Our Community Cares, which came out of the pandemic to highlight the resiliency and effect of volunteers to various community services here in the Region of Waterloo. Volunteerism has been on the decline since the pandemic, but the volunteers here in our communities continue to step up and provide stellar services.

The alignment of Our Community Cares with International Volunteer Day is intentional. International Volunteer Day held on December 5th each year was established by the United Nations to thank and appreciate volunteers and their contributions across the world. With the volunteer environment in Canada changing and the growing need for community and all the programs and services we rely on, showing our region how much Our Community Cares is a wonderful opportunity. We are grateful to all of you who contribute and participate.

“Volunteers are incredibly valuable resources in our community,” says Jane Hennig, Executive Director of Volunteer Waterloo Region. “They are really the heart and soul of what makes Waterloo Region a place where we want to live, and they embody the spirit of Our Community Cares.”

###

Since 1984, Volunteer Waterloo Region (VWR) has provided connections and leadership to support the development of individuals and organizations through volunteerism. VWR is one of many volunteer centres across the province and country that act as a central resource for local volunteer programs while sharing best practices and continuous learning for professionals in the nonprofit sector.

Today, the organization serves over 160 charities and not-for-profit organizations in the community that represent arts and culture, health, social services, education, the environment, and more. These organizations, and the added value of support from volunteers, makes Waterloo Region a community in which people want to live, work, and raise families.

Volunteer Waterloo Region is a leader and innovator in the social service sector. We create and continually develop new ways to advocate for volunteerism through the use of technology, collaborative partnerships and ever-evolving services to the sector.

We PROMOTE, ENGAGE, CONNECT and COACH those who are interested in making this community more resilient and welcoming.

For more Information Contact

Jane Hennig, Executive Director, Volunteer Waterloo Region

jane@volunteerwr.ca

519-742-8610

Volunteerwr.ca