CITY OF BURNABY

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SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

RE: 2003 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2003:

Jeannette Aadland Lina Hu Keith Beedie Pak Wing Kan Gladys Brundrett Carol La Croix Parvin Chami Jav McGarva Gillian Chan Rajinder Pandher Paul Colvin Eric Seto John DeForest Norman Song Jeanne Fike Margaret Van Soest Maureen François Greg von Euw Ruth Gautschi Deb Yaschuk

- 2. **THAT** Council invite nominees to a Council meeting in November, during Social Planning Month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions.
- 3. **THAT** Council approve expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2004 Council Committees and Boards Budget for printing and advertising costs for next year's Local Hero program.

REPORT

The Social Issues Committee, at its Open meeting held on 2003 October 22, received and adopted the <u>attached</u> report providing nominations for the 2003 Local Hero Awards. The Committee noted that each nominee satisfied the guidelines for Burnaby Local Hero recognition and contributed strongly to community well being for several years.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston, Chair

COPY - CITY MANAGER

- DIRECTOR PLANNING & BUILDING
- DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES
- DIRECTOR FINANCE

Councillor L. Rankin, Vice Chair

Councillor S. Dhaliwal, Member TO:

CHAIR AND MEMBERS

SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

2003 October 17

FROM:

DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 17.931

SUBJECT:

2003 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

PURPOSE: To recommend a list of individuals for consideration for Local Hero Awards for

2003 and to gain approval for launching a Local Hero program for 2004.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council be asked to

a) approve the nominations of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2003:

Jeannette Aadland

Keith Beedie

Gladys Brundrett

Parvin Chami

Gillian Chan

Paul Colvin

John DeForest

Jeanne Fike

Maureen François

Ruth Gautschi

Lina Hu

Pak Wing Kan

Carol La Croix

Jay McGarva

Rajinder Pandher

Eric Seto

Norman Song

Margaret Van Soest

Greg von Euw

Deb Yaschuk

- invite nominees to a Council meeting in November, during Social b) Planning Month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions.
- approve expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2004 Council Committees c) and Boards Budget for printing and advertising costs for next year's Local Hero program.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Each year since 1997, Burnaby has identified and recognized Local Heroes: people who had made substantial contributions to community well being over several years. In 1997 and 1998, the impetus came from the Social Planning and Research Council (SPARC) of B.C., which invited Burnaby and other municipalities in the province to undertake a Local Hero initiative. Beginning in 1999, the City decided to launch its own annual Local Hero recognition program.

To date, the City has recognized 72 Local Heroes - individuals who represent diverse interests and backgrounds and have contributed to the community in a variety of ways (see list of previous recipients in Appendix 1, *attached*).

This report provides background information and recommendations on the nominees for the 2003 Local Hero program.

2.0 LOCAL HERO NOMINEES

As in previous years, the following channels were used to seek nominations for the 2003 Local Hero awards: advertisements in Burnaby's community newspapers, a call for nominations through the City's web site and InfoBurnaby, and requests to participants at various inter-agency meetings to "get the word out" about the initiative. Posters and brochures on the program were circulated through Burnaby schools, City Hall, recreation centres, libraries, and other venues. In addition, Volunteer Burnaby included brochures about the program in several mail-outs to its member agencies, publicized the program in media releases and at community events, and made phone calls to volunteer managers encouraging them to nominate noteworthy volunteers. A copy of the brochure, which includes the eligibility guidelines and nomination form, is presented in Appendix 2, attached.

Forty-two nominations were submitted for this year's Local Hero program. Many strong nominations were received, with each highlighting very worthy candidates for the awards. As stated in the eligibility guidelines, a maximum of 20 Local Heroes may be selected in a given year. In addition, the guidelines indicate that the City aims to recognize a balanced slate of nominees in a given year (e.g., representation from a diversity of age groups, geographic areas, and activity types). With this in mind, and based on the established criteria, staff, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, propose the following nominees for 2003:

Jeanette Aadland: For over fifteen years Jeannette has volunteered in the areas of health and pastoral care. On a weekly basis, she has visited residents of both Burnaby Hospital and Saint Michael's Extended Care Hospital. As a volunteer with Burnaby Hospice Society, she spent four years as a regular visitor to the Palliative Care unit at Burnaby General. Over the past two years she visited three terminally ill Hospice clients in their homes. To quote her nominator: "Jeannette brings a gentle, warm compassion to all her Hospice relationships, and has an obvious and deep respect for her fellow human beings, their stories and their suffering... Jeannette is an exemplary volunteer."

Keith Beedie: Keith has lived and operated his property development firm in Burnaby for over 45 years. He has provided significant financial support to a number of Burnaby organizations including: Burnaby Hospital, Friends of Interurban 1223, Burnaby Citizen Support Services, Burnaby Christmas Bureau, Burnaby St. Johns Ambulance, Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society and the Burnaby Carousel. He has served on Burnaby's Chamber of Commere (now called the Board of Trade) and the City's Traffic Safety Committee. In 2000, he was a financial founder of Burnaby Kidsport. In 2003, he initiated fund raising and contributed fifty percent of the funds needed for Burnaby Hospital to purchase a Holimum Laser for non-invasive kidney stone removal. In the words of one of his nominators: "Burnaby has been good to him; he wants to give back to his community."

Gladys Brundrett: Gladys was one of the original Burnaby residents who worked to establish the South Burnaby Neighbourhood House. Her work began in 1994. In 1996, she became a founding member of the South Burnaby Neighbourhood House Society and worked over the next several years to lay the foundation of the programs and services offered by it. In 1999, she became the treasurer of the Society and continues today to be a board member. In addition to her board member duties, she assists with community events, trains office volunteers, raises funds and provides floral arrangements at special events. Gladys also volunteers with the Food First Committee and its Empty Bowls project. Her nominator states, "We can always count on Gladys Brundrett when help is needed."

Parvin Chami: Parvin has been active in her neighbourhood over the past nine years. When Discovery Place was developed in west Burnaby, she campaigned for the protection of as much green space as possible and for development to occur in an environmentally sound and ecologically friendly manner. During this time, she established Friends of Discovery Park, an organization that has brought together members of her neighbourhood. She is the Block Watch captain for her neighbourhood. She has also served on the Parent Advisory Committee of Marlborough School and the Burnaby District Parent Advisory Committee. She is described as "going to bat for anyone with a legitimate concern and carrying through to the end."

Gillian Chan: Gillian has been actively involved at a volunteer at Gilmore Community School and the Heights community for over seven years. She has established and participates in many programs to welcome newcomers to the community. She was instrumental in the formation of the Burnaby School District's Parents Supporting Parents project. She provides translation and interpretation services for Mandarin-speaking families in the community. Gillian also serves on the Board of the Burnaby Multicultural Society. In the words of her nominator, "Gillian works quietly to help others, to make them feel connected to the community and to encourage them to become involved. She is truly a local hero!"

Paul Colvin: Paul has volunteered for the BC Special Olympics in Burnaby for five years. He currently serves on the Executive Board as the Program Coordinator. His volunteer work involves booking facilities for all of the organization's programs, coordinating coaches, and managing and organizing equipment. He coaches speed skating, baseball, soccer and floor hockey. In addition, he volunteers at special events, provides desk top publishing and other computer skills to the organization and assists with the transportation of athletes. He also spends time on the phone with athletes, caregivers and parents providing details of sporting events and general information on the Special Olympics. One of his nominators states, "if Paul ever left us, we wouldn't know what to do!

John DeForest: John has been a volunteer for the Curatorial and Conservation Departments of the Burnaby Village Museum since 1986. He is also a member of the Burnaby Historical Society and Friends of Interurban 1223. Through his background as an engineer, he has contributed his manual and technical skills to every restoration project undertaken by the Museum. Staff appreciate his ability to guide them through technical information and manufacturing processes dating from the 1920s. Over the years, John has used historical sources to draw patterns for children's toys from the early 1900s. These drawings will be compiled in a book and made available to Museum visitors. In addition, he continues a tradition initiated by his late wife in hand making teddy bears. The bears are given to people in need during illness or bereavement, or to mark the birth of a new child. Together, he and his wife have made hundreds of bears and distributed them to staff, friends and strangers. His nominator notes: "John is an outstanding contributor to our community and continues to share his expertise and spirit with us."

Jeanne Fike: Jeanne currently serves as the Executive Director of the Burnaby Family Life Institute. She is described as going above and beyond the call of duty in making sure Burnaby residents have the programs they need. She has been instrumental in developing programs that serve a broad spectrum of the Burnaby population including battered women with children, survivors of sexual abuse, and recent immigrants. Her nominator adds that she frequently gives up weekends and works late into the night to apply for funding and develop proposals. She is described as an extremely compassionate person who cares deeply for employees, volunteers and clients of Burnaby Family Life, as well as the community at large.

Maureen Francois: "Moe" has managed and operated employment programs for special needs individuals for many years. She currently works part-time for the Artists Helping Artists (AHA) project of the Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion. Her nominator states that although she is paid to work eight hours a week, she often puts in more than thirty hours. For the past five years, she has assisted disabled artists in the marketing and sales of their work. This work culminated in the establishment of the Artists Helping Artists Cooperative in 2002. The co-operative provides disabled artists with the opportunity to create, show and sell their work with the purpose of financial self-sufficiency. Moe has worked to secure studio space, donated supplies and discounted framing for the co-op. She has arranged for artists in the community to offer classes and mentor members of AHA, and has spent her own money on art supplies and transportation for co-op members. She is also a director of the Burnaby Arts Council and member of the Burnaby Artists' Guild. Her nominator adds: "Moe works tirelessly on behalf of the AHA members and truly deserves to be recognized for her efforts."

Ruth Gautschi: Ruth is in her twenty-first year of volunteering with Citizen Support Services. She started helping with the Hearing Screening program, a program which checks the hearing of all kindergarten children in Burnaby. Since then, Ruth volunteers twice a month with the Shopping Buddies program, pushing clients in wheelchairs around shopping centres in Burnaby. Each week, she also shops for groceries for housebound seniors in the Shop by Phone program. She calls each grocery client to let them know the amount of his or her order. Her nominator states: "Ruth is always cheerful and willing to help wherever she is needed. She believes in giving back to the community."

Lina Hu: Lina is a first year university student. While at Burnaby North Secondary School, she initiated a volunteer club. She recruited and organized an executive committee to promote volunteerism with students at the school. Her work included making presentations to Career and Personal Planning program classes, advertising volunteer positions, researching volunteer opportunities with Volunteer Burnaby every week, helping students find volunteer positions and administering the club's activities. She has also helped to organize fund raising events for the Burnaby Christmas Bureau. According to her nominator: "Lina wants to share and make the world a better place."

Pak Wing Kan: Pak Wing has volunteered with SUCCESS since 1995. He has actively worked to promote the spirit of multiculturalism and mutual understanding in the Chinese community. He was chairperson of SUCCESS's 500 member seniors group from 1995 to 1999. During this time, he became familiar with many of the challenges facing seniors in his community. To help with their integration, he organized field trips and workshops on different aspects of Canadian life. He also taught English. His nominator states, "Mr Kan is a pleasant, enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer to SUCCESS and the community."

Carol La Croix: Carol has been a volunteer with Scouts in Burnaby for over ten years. Although her son is now grown, she continues to devote many hours to the organization. Her positions with Scouts have ranged from Beaver leader to Area Service Scouter. She was instrumental in starting Camp Woodchip, an overnight camp for Beavers in north Burnaby which she continue to coordinate each year. She developed an advanced program for Beavers and produced a book on the program which has been well received by other regions. She has also completed considerable training in the organization and trained other leaders as well. To quote her nominator: "Carol is a true asset to our community and has mentored and assisted many young people and adult leaders in the years she has dedicated to volunteerism."

Jay McGarva: Jay has volunteered with the Burnaby Board of Trade for four years. She has been on the Board of Directors and currently volunteers her time to organize events, raise funds, recruit new members and advocate on behalf of the business community. She is the treasurer of the Burnaby Symphony Orchestra and a member of Burnaby Metro Rotary Club for which she has helped organized large fund raising, charitable events. In the words of one of her nominators: "Jay is devoted to the promotion of small business as well as charitable events in Burnaby. She will take on any event with a smile on her face."

Rajinder Pandher: Rajinder has served on many civic bodies and non-governmental organizations in Burnaby. In 1992, he was part of the Interfaith Committee which helped organize Burnaby's centennial celebrations at Swangard Stadium. He served on the City's Community Issues and Social Planning Committee for six years. During this time, he organized diversity training sessions to help build bridges between the South Asian community and other Burnaby residents. In 1997, he volunteered with the BC Summer Games in Burnaby. He has been a long-standing member of the Burnaby Multicultural Society and has helped the Society design new programs for immigrants. To quote from his nominator, "Burnaby is a better place because of his strong commitment to community and his many volunteer contributions."

Eric Seto: Eric has been the owner and operator of Sunset Pharmacy for about 40 years. His nominator states that his dedication, and the services he provides, go far beyond a simple business relationship. His storefront is described as operating like a drop-in centre where medications, philosophy, humour and advice are dispensed. Eric offers free home delivery and will often help seniors to dispense their medication into their personal pill containers. He will make deliveries both day and night, as necessary. He takes time to sit with customers and hear their concerns. He finds out what medications are covered on people's plans and will help them save money. He also sells crafts and other items on consignment to assist groups in their fund raising. His nominator adds: "He is a valuable member of the health team of many people. Many people depend on him and would receive less comprehensive and caring attention with their medication if he were not available to them. Although he runs a business, he volunteers his time and energy to go beyond the call of duty."

Norman Song: Norman was instrumental in the planning and development of St. Margaret's of Scotland Abbeyfield House in north Burnaby. He currently serves on its Board of Directors. He has also campaigned for better air quality in north Burnaby. He organized members of different church denominations in successfully petitioning the GVRD to reduce the amount of allowable emissions from Chevron refinery. In the words of his nominator: "Norman is concerned for the well-being of people, particularly seniors."

Margaret Van Soest: Margaret has been a volunteer tutor with Douglas College's I-CARE (Individualized Community Adult Reading Education) program since 1995. The program is geared to adults who have never had the opportunity to go to school or were unsuccessful in learning basic literacy skills while in school. Margaret has completed a number of professional development courses in tutoring and developed expertise in the field. She has tutored seven Burnaby residents. Her nominator adds: "Most of her students have been women who need to work on their self-esteem as well as their reading and writing skills. Margaret has a natural way of making students feel at ease with her and with the work at hand."

Greg von Euw: Greg is only 12 years old. He has helped with streamkeeping initiatives in Burnaby since he was four. His activities have included tree planting, painting fish for the Stream of Dreams project in Ottawa and participating in the Great Salmon Send Off each year. During the last two years he has been an active streamkeeper for Silver Creek. Due to the efforts of Greg, and other streamkeepers, the fish in Silver Creek have managed to survive. Greg has salvaged plants from a site under going construction in the Seymour waterhshed and transplanted native species in the riparian area of Silver Creek. In the springs of 2002 and 2003, he volunteered with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in the release of salmon fry into the creek. In the words of his nominator: "he is truly a dedicated young person who should be recognized for his efforts."

Deb Yaschuk: Deb has contributed to community life in Burnaby since she moved here in 1989. Notwithstanding a serious disability, she has volunteered with organizations supporting seniors, children and people with disabilities. She has volunteered at Cameron Recreation Centre since 1989 in both the seniors centre and day camps for children. To support individuals with disabilities in cooking more nutritious meals, Deb runs a community kitchen program from her home. Her advocacy work for people with disabilities has involved participation in the Philia Society and helping the Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion re-write their mission statement. Her nominator states: "Patient, resilient, forgiving, Deb dreams of being accepted, to belong, to have a purpose and to be valued. She boldly wheeled into a community not quite ready for her contributions and gave them anyway."

3.0 ASSESSMENT

Based on the established selection criteria, the foregoing twenty nominees satisfy the guidelines for Burnaby Local Hero recognition. In their unique ways, they have all made strong contributions to community well being over several years. It is therefore proposed that they be recognized as Local Heroes for 2003.

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2003 marks the seventh year that Burnaby has recognized Local Heroes, and the fifth year that it has done so as a City initiative (i.e., independent of an invitation from SPARC of BC).

As in previous years, the quality of the submissions and calibre of the nominees for 2003 were high. It is believed that the Local Hero program continues to be a relatively inexpensive, effective vehicle for recognizing citizens who have "gone beyond the call of duty" in contributing to the community over the years.

In conclusion, it is recommended that Council be asked to approve the nomination of the following individuals for receipt of Burnaby Local Hero Awards in 2003:

- 1. Jeannette Aadland
- 2. Keith Beedie
- 3. Gladys Brundrett
- 4. Parvin Chami
- 5. Gillian Chan
- 6. Paul Colvin
- 7. John DeForest
- 8. Jeanne Fike
- 9. Maureen François
- 10. Ruth Gautschi
- 11. Lina Hu
- 12. Pak Wing Kan
- 13. Carol La Croix
- 14. Jay McGarva
- 15. Rajinder Pandher
- 16. Eric Seto
- 17. Norman Song
- 18. Margaret Van Soest
- 19. Greg von Euw
- 20. Deb Yaschuk

It is further recommended that these individuals be invited to a reception followed by a Council meeting in November, during Social Planning Month, to be presented with certificates of recognition for their contributions. As in 2002, recipients, their families, and nominators would be invited to attend. In addition, as approved by Council at its meeting on 2003 April 14, Volunteer Burnaby would be invited to have a display of their organization at the reception in recognition of their support in promoting the 2003 program.

It is further recommended that Council be asked to approve the expenditure of up to \$3,000 from the 2004 Council Committee and Boards for the printing of brochures and posters and placement of newspaper advertisements for next year's Local Hero program.

Given Committee and Council concurrence with these recommendations, staff propose to publish an article on this year's Local Hero recipients in InfoBurnaby and arrange for publication of their names in SPARC News (SPARC of BC's newsletter, which is circulated throughout the province).

J.S. Belhouse, Director

PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM:sa

Attachments (2)

cc:

City Manager

Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Director Finance

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APPENDIX 1

PREVIOUS BURNABY LOCAL HEROES

1997

Barbara Brady
Don Brown
Beth Chobotuck
Don Copan
Edie Fisher
Maddie Greenlay
Barb Peabody

1998

Ray Abernethy Allison Dalgleish Bharti Envik Lilac Jung Faye Ku Ruth Loland Anita Loy Melody Marbach Sharon Mudrakoff

1999

Georgie Cole
Marjorie Deschner
Gloria Inglis
Effie Kennedy
Erna Kozak
Marion Krause
Nick Kvenich
George McLean
Scott Robertson
Ken Ryan
Rudy Spense
Don Steen
Barbara Stewart
Tim Zimich

2000

Mark Angelo Lillian Chalmers Glenice English Philip Henderson Grace Jo Les Lee Lowe Barbara Lussier Tony Mauro Doreen Player Joyce Rosteron Carol Roycroft

2001

Roxy Abernethy
Beverly Adams
Tracie Buzza
Dennis Baker
Joan Carne
Paulene Hall
Christina Lupien
Judi Marshall
Louise Towell
Sandy Twinn
Marguerite Wallace

2002

Elizabeth Briemberg Steve Cairns Millie Canessa Kenney Chan Jack Cvr Harvey Elder Richard Harvey Reg and Ethel Hawthorne Vivian Henderson Gail Klarer Kenny So Ying Leung Nick Lutz Eleanor MacQueen Merv Magus Sev Morin Regina Ogmundson Hugh Robertson Norm Sandercock Bernice Wiseman

Why does the nominee deserve to be recognized as a Local Hero?	(Please attach additional pages or supporting materials, if necessary).

Who can we contact if we need further information?

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Name:	Address: .	

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Phone: .	,	Name:

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Please return completed nomination form to:



2003 Local Hero Recognition Telephone: 604-294-7290 Social Issues Committee Burnaby, BC VG5 1M2 Attention: Sid Cleave c/o City Clerk's Office Fax: 604-294-7537 4949 Canada Way

Time Lines:

Deadline for submission of nominations. Friday October 3, 2003:

Late October 2003:

Assessment of nominations by the Social Issues Committee.

Early November 2003:

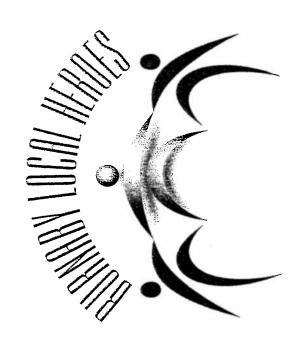
recipients, based on recommendations from Council decision on annual Local Hero the Social Issues Committee.

Late November 2003;

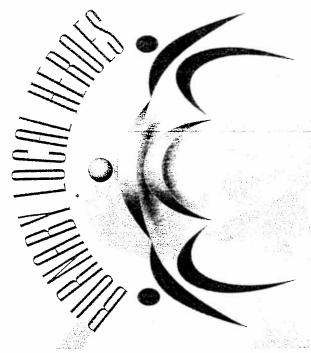
Presentation of recognition certificates to Local Heroes at Council meeting.

Early 2004:

InfoBurnaby article on recipients.







Call for Nominations

The City of Burnaby is seeking nominations Outstanding contributions to community wellyear that Burnaby Will be recognizing its local for Local Heroes - people who have made being in Burnaby. 2003 marks the seventh

Eligibility: All people living, working, or participating in Burnaby are eligible for recognition.

Nominations: Nominations are invited from community groups, agencies, and the general public.

Selection What distinguishes Local Heroes? They are people Criteria: of any age group or background who have made noteworthy contributions to community undit being the community.

of any age group or background who have made noteworthy contributions to community well-being in Burnaby.

Priority will generally be given to nominees who have contributed to the community over an extended period of time. Consideration will also be given, however, to those who have made noteworthy contributions over a shorter period (e.g., youths,

Examples of activities include volunteering for a local agency or community school, participating in environmental initiatives, or helping recent immigrants with settling into the community.

recent immigrants)

The intent is to recognize volunteers, rather than people who contribute through their paid employment. In exceptional circumstances, however, people who go "above and beyond the call of duty" in their jobs may also be eligible for recognition.

A maximum of 20 Local Heroes will be selected this year. Further, efforts will be made to recognize a balanced state of Local Heroes, which collectively represent a diversity of:

- age groups,
- geographic areas i.e., people living in or contributing to various parts of Burnaby, and
- activity types i.e., participate in a range of activities, rather than a select few



Local Heroes will be presented with certificates and publicly recognized at a City Council meeting in November. An afficie on the Local Hero recipients will also be published in the City's information newsletter, infoBurnaby in early 2004.

Submission Procedure:

People wishing to submit a nomination are requested to return a completed Nomination Form (attached), along with any necessary supporting materials, to:

2003 Local Hero Recognition Social Issues Committee C/O City Clerk's Office 4949 Canada Way Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2 Attention: Sid Cleave

City of Burnaby	50
Nomination Form	Tim Signal
Who is being nominated?	
Address:	
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Who is making the nomination?	, (wo
Address:	
hone:	(hom
Yhal category or categories best describe the	st describe the
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] Education	
] Environment	
] Recreation	
Other (describe briefly)	
s the person being nominated for activities done as a	for activities done as a
T Volunteer	
Paid employee	

continued on reverse

If a paid employee, please state where the person works:

