



**Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers**  
**Médaille du souverain pour les bénévoles**

**Brigid Kemp**

**Penticton, British Columbia**

Brigid Kemp has been a Community Volunteer Income Tax Program coordinator for over a decade. She also contributes her time to the Salvation Army, the City of Penticton's transportation advisory committee, the United Way, and the BC Federation of Retired Union Members. Through the Penticton and District Community Response Network, she addresses the issues of abuse and neglect among vulnerable adults.

**Brigid Kemp**

**Penticton (Colombie-Britannique)**

Brigid Kemp est coordonnatrice du Programme communautaire des bénévoles en matière d'impôt depuis plus de dix ans et travaille comme bénévole pour l'Armée du Salut, le comité consultatif sur les transports de la Ville de Penticton, Centraide et la Fédération des syndiqués retraités de la Colombie-Britannique. Par l'intermédiaire du réseau d'intervention communautaire du district de Penticton, elle lutte contre les mauvais traitements et la négligence envers les adultes vulnérables.



## SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers recognizes the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country and celebrates a wide range of voluntary contributions.

As an official honour created by the Crown, the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers is part of the Canadian Honours System. The program has incorporated and replaced the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, which was created in 1995, by then-Governor General the Right Honourable Roméo LeBlanc.

The Chancellery of Honours, part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, administers the program.

### Nomination Process and Eligibility Criteria

The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers recognizes living Canadians who have made a significant, sustained and unpaid contribution to their community, in Canada or abroad. Non-Canadians are also eligible if their contribution brings benefit or honour to Canadians or to Canada.

Nominations for the Medal for Volunteers are accepted throughout the year by the Chancellery of Honours and reviewed by an advisory committee, which makes recommendations to the governor general. Existing Caring Canadian Award recipients will subsequently receive the medal to complement their award.

**Nominate a friend, neighbour or member of your community who deserves this unique honour by visiting [caring.gg.ca](http://caring.gg.ca).**

### Description of the Medal

The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers consists of a silver circular medal that is 36 mm in diameter with a suspension ring. The obverse depicts a contemporary effigy of the Sovereign, circumscribed with the inscription in capital letters of the Canadian Royal Title and the word "CANADA", separated by two maple leaves. The reverse bears a large and a small heart interlaced, set with five maple leaves on the outer edge of the large heart which is surmounted by a coronet bearing three maple leaves. The edge of the reverse is decorated with a sunburst pattern. The medal is suspended from a ribbon that is 32 mm in width, the edges of which shall consist of 9.25 mm deep red stripes and the centre of which shall consist of five 1.5 mm gold stripes interspersed with four 1.5 mm blue stripes.

Questions concerning the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers can be sent to [caring-entraide@gg.ca](mailto:caring-entraide@gg.ca) or by calling 613-991-6185 or 1-800-465-6890 (toll-free).



Obverse / Avers

Reverse / Revers



CANADIAN HERALDIC AUTHORITY  
SYMBOLISM  
OF THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE  
**SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL  
FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**Insignia:** The obverse depicts a crowned image of the Sovereign, in whose name the medal is bestowed. The reverse indicates the ideas of caring and generosity, represented by the two hearts. The sunburst pattern of the rim symbolizes the time that volunteers are giving and their actions. Inspired by the Scottish *Luckenbooth* brooches traded in North America in the 17th century, this design is a modern version of a traditional emblem with roots in Canadian history.

The ribbon uses the vice-regal colours of blue and gold, which are taken from the pin of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, which the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers has replaced. The five gold stripes evoke the fingers of a hand, present in the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award emblem. The deep red colour is associated with royalty.

**Original concept of** Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada, and Darcy DeMarsico, assisted by the heralds of the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

**Painter:** Cathy Bursey-Sabourin, Fraser Herald

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AUTORITÉ HÉRALDIQUE DU CANADA  
SYMBOLISME  
DES EMBLÈMES HÉRALDIQUES DE LA  
**MÉDAILLE DU SOUVERAIN  
POUR LES BÉNÉVOLES**

**Insigne :** Sur l'avvers figure le profil de la souveraine au nom de laquelle est décernée cette médaille. Le revers souligne la compassion et la générosité, représentées par les deux cœurs. Les rayons symbolisent le temps que donnent les bénévoles, ainsi que leurs actions. Inspiré par les broches écossaises de style *Luckenbooth*, négociées en Amérique du Nord au 17<sup>e</sup> siècle, ce dessin est une version moderne d'un emblème traditionnel qui est ancré dans l'histoire canadienne.

Le ruban utilise les couleurs vice-royales, le bleu et l'or, qui proviennent de l'emblème du Prix du gouverneur général pour l'entraide, ici remplacé par la Médaille du souverain pour les bénévoles. Les cinq bandes dorées évoquent les doigts de la main, qui figurent sur l'emblème du Prix du gouverneur général pour l'entraide. La couleur rouge foncé est associée à la royauté.

**Concept original de** Claire Boudreau, héraut d'armes du Canada, et de Darcy DeMarsico, assistées par les héralds de l'Autorité héraldique du Canada.

**Artiste-peintre :** Cathy Bursey-Sabourin, héraut Fraser

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Bruce Patterson  
Registrar / Garde de l'armorial