

TIELINES

The Newsletter of the Canadian YMCA Alumni

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President's Message July–August 2023

SUMMER — A TIME TO RELAX AND REFLECT

I hope this edition of TieLines finds you and your family healthy and enjoying summer in Canada. It has been a very unpredictable summer weather-wise across the country with the impact of a changing climate very evident. But, I do hope you can enjoy the lazy days of summer. Most years I find summers are a time to slow down and catch up on things that have been put off during the rest of the year; a time to explore new places and visit or catch up with family and friends.

This summer has been no exception, although it seems to be passing me by at an alarming rate. I just got back from 2 weeks in the Netherlands, exploring the history of that country and also seeing how they are very actively making great strides in reducing their carbon footprint throughout the country. The use of wind turbines is quite amazing and puts them on a very strong footing to reach zero carbon emissions by 2050. As I heard these figures from our various tour guides, I reflected on Peter Dinsdale's comments in June about wanting to challenge our local YMCAs in Canada to consider becoming more a part of the energy solutions in our communities. Innovation on this front will no doubt come from the youth of today and so I look forward to seeing how Ys will continue to respond to these challenges.

Although a number of us are enjoying our summers, I want to let you know about one group of our Executive Committee that has not taken a summer break. That group, led by Franco Savoia, is our History Project team. Late last year, we decided to embark on a project to capture the history of the Canadian YMCA over the past 60–70 years. We realized that a lot of the history of this time period is in the minds and memories of you, our current alumni members. And, rightly or wrongly, we figured that someone in the future might be interested in knowing how the YMCA changed and responded to the changing times in our communities during these years. We've begun capturing this information through a series of conversations and chats with YMCA volunteer and staff leaders who held leadership positions locally and nationally during this time period. I had the opportunity to sit in on one of these chats recently, and what an interesting hour it was! The YMCA changed dramatically in how it operated and how it responded to the challenges facing our communities during these years. I'm sure we can all recall when we changed from providing programs and services to only men and boys to serving the whole family, and from focusing primarily on fitness, aquatics, residences and camping to

adding childcare, employment and newcomer programs to our offerings.

It was a great time of change, and one which we should be proud of being part of the leadership of the time. Having the opportunity to recall the challenges and the opportunities of these former times and how we as leaders responded made for a very interesting and enlightening hour.

Franco and I had the opportunity recently to speak to Peter Dinsdale at YMCA Canada about the project and discuss where we might take it. We're thinking about a *book*. I say "*book*" because we haven't decided what type of book it might be — we are not wanting it to be a historical chronology of programs, but something more interesting, something people might want to read. As Peter, Franco and I spoke about this project, Peter mentioned that YMCA Canada will start the development of a new Strategic Plan next year in Halifax and some of these leadership stories would be useful to help frame discussions as they build upon the strengths of the past and find new pathways for the future. So, as you can see already, our project can be useful to the current YMCA leadership. Our History Project team has a long list of people and stories they want to capture and if you are reading this you are probably on or should be on Franco's list. When Franco calls, please consider sharing your time and memories with us.

Well that's all for now — back to the summer activities.

Janet Giles
Janet.giles@shaw.ca



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Canadian YMCA Alumni News

Celebrating Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to:

July

Rich Bailey, Tom Coon, Ron Coulombe, Keitha Davey, Russ Davey, Bette Gerhardt, Steve Heming, Janet Johnson-Dawson, Gordon McKay, Peter Noble, Donna Morrison, Laura Palmer Korn, Mimi Price, John Schmitt

August

Bishnupriya Bag, Jack Bernhardt, Margaret Flett, Nancy Forrest, Gayle Graham, Gary Gray, Eric Van Meurs

About TieLines

TieLines is the newsletter of the Canadian YMCA Alumni published bimonthly at the end of February, April, June, August, October, and mid-December. Please forward articles for inclusion, any corrections/comments to Diana Deakin-Thomas indicating TieLines in the subject line at dianadeakinthomas@gmail.com. Don't want to receive TieLines anymore? You can unsubscribe by emailing editor.cdnyalumni@gmail.com. You can find back issues of TieLines [Click Here!](#)

Who are our members?

The Canadian YMCA Alumni is a fellowship of former YMCA or YMCA-YWCA staff, volunteers and/or their partners. We stay connected through TieLines and various ZOOM events. If you know someone who might be interested in joining the Alumni, please share this issue and connect them with Jacqueline Jenkins our Membership Chair at ohjackie@rogers.com.

THE HELENE AND GEORGE COWARD YOUNG LEADER AWARD FOR 2023

Submitted by Marilyn Kapitany



And the recipient is... Christopher Hunt from the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford!

Wait a minute, wait a minute! You need some background to understand how great this is. It's an important piece of the puzzle as we continue building an international mindset in the Y.

A number of years ago, Kenneth Coward, an alumnus of Sir George Williams University in Montreal (now Concordia University), generously provided for an international education opportunity for a young Canadian YMCA leader. The Helene and George Coward Young Leader Award, named in honour of Kenneth's parents, was to be presented every two years to recognize an outstanding contribution by a YMCA young leader between the age of 21 and 32 (so very young indeed from where I sit) in building healthier, more inclusive communities locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.

The inaugural award was presented in 2017, the next in 2019... and then COVID hit. But now, the Coward Award is back! The recipient of the award gets an international learning experience valued up to \$6,000, determined in consultation with YMCA Canada. The award may take the form of either an overseas YMCA placement or support for an internationally focused educational program

through a recognized educational institution.

The selection committee this year had a very hard job. Ten excellent nominations were received from Ys across the country, and it was our job to select just one recipient. Aably supported by Dagmawi Selamssa and Jessica Nkongolo from Youth & Global Initiatives, YMCA Canada, we set about our task. Committee members were Ted Cadigan (YMCA of Newfoundland & Labrador), Helen Francis (YMCA of Northeastern Ontario), Ray Kurniawan (YMCA of Southwestern Ontario), Stephanie Mikalishen (a former YMCA staff member and recipient of the Award) and me (National Alumni member and YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg volunteer). We reviewed and rated written material and then the team of Ted, Ray and Stephanie interviewed the short-list candidates. Finally, after in-depth discussions, we selected Christopher Hunt as this year's recipient.

Christopher Hunt is the Manager of Indigenous partnerships and the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford's "Beyond the Bell," after-school program that supports students in grades 1 to 5 as they develop their academic and social skills.

One of the areas served by the program is Six Nations of the Grand River.

During the pandemic, Six Nations' schools remained closed longer than others in Ontario, and at times, elected council chose to close the community to non-residents. For external organizations like the Y, this created concern about potential disruptions in service. Despite these challenges, Chris ensured Beyond the Bell students had support.

When schools closed, Chris devised a plan to reach families in novel ways. Under his leadership, Beyond the Bell educators developed activities focused on health, arts, literacy and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). He collaborated with Six Nations Social Services to deliver learning toolkits to participating families, filling vans with supplies and delivering to over 50 families every other week. In the absence of the healthy snacks provided by Beyond the Bell in-person programs, he collaborated with Wholesome Kids Catering to add snacks to the toolkits.

In addition to regular deliveries, Chris organized special holiday deliveries. He leveraged existing YMCA partnerships to deliver footwear for children and provide groceries for holiday dinners. He also found ways to deliver items with Haudenosaunee (Six Nations) cultural relevance. He connected with Six Nations businesses to deliver Indigenous crafts and winter mittens with Haudenosaunee Wampum belt designs hand-knit by Mohawk artisans. Partnering with a program donor, he also provided books written by Haudenosaunee authors.

The virtual Beyond the Bell initiative had an unexpected impact on parents and guardians. Chris often chatted with family members during deliveries (from a distance, of course), with many sharing how the deliveries brought their family closer. The activities became family gatherings, providing opportunities to spend quality time with the children.

To quote the nomination letter received by the selection committee, "during a time of unprecedented struggle for Indigenous communities, Chris went above and beyond to put YMCA values into action. His initiative had a direct and positive impact in Six Nations and helped our YMCA continue supporting families."

Congratulations to Chris, and thanks to the people who took the time to make nominations and to the Y CEOs who supported the participants in the process.



LAST CALL!

The Canadian YMCA Alumni Awards

These awards are the most valued recognition of our members and YMCA institutions.

The awards are presented annually and celebrate:

- A. Recognizing members of the Canadian YMCA Alumni retirees who have made a significant contribution to the YMCA as a volunteer after retirement.**
- B. Recognizing members of the Canadian YMCA Alumni retirees who have made a significant contribution to their community as a volunteer after retirement.**
- C. Recognition of a YMCA institution (Association, YMCA, YMCA- YWCA, YMCA Canada etc.) which has made a significant contribution to the development and/or enhancement of the Canadian YMCA Alumni.**
 - *Normally one award per category will be presented but the Executive may present more*
 - *Volunteer Category – a Canadian YMCA Alumni member or the CEO of a YMCA, YMCA-YWCA or YMCA Canada.*
 - *Institution Category – by any Canadian YMCA Alumni member*

Awards are not made posthumously.

Nomination information and names are to remain confidential. Nomination form appears at the end of TieLines. Due date: on or before **October 15, 2023.**

YMCA Brotherhood Fund — Global Retirement Initiative (GRI)

Franco Savoia

YMCA staff around the world have shared concern for their colleagues in the developing world who retire without any pension or retirement fund. Years ago, the World Alliance of YMCA established a Secours Speciaux, an emergency fund, to which Y retirees who are experiencing financial difficulty are able to apply. The Canadian Y Alumni conducts an annual campaign to contribute and support this fund.

Although this fund provides invaluable emergency assistance, it is not a lasting solution. The ultimate solution is that each local Y would be part of a Y retirement as we have in Canada. However, the precarious financial state of some of the Ys in Africa and Southeast Asia prevents them from forming and joining such a retirement fund.

About 20 years ago several USA retirees launched a campaign to set up a fund to assist in this effort. The fund is now approximately \$1million US. Concurrently, the World Fellowship of Y Retirees (WFYR) created a Global Retirement Initiative (GRI). Three pilot projects are now underway led by Phil Dwyer.

I have been wondering if in any of our international partnerships, a local Y is not part of a retirement fund, could we assist in developing a pilot using the YMCA Brotherhood Fund? I am interested in your thoughts.

[Click HERE to find the August edition of BRIDGES](#)

Y History Project — Update

Franco Savoia

The Alumni's Y History Project Committee has set a huge task of recording the changes within the YMCA in Canada over the past 7 decades.

The first task the committee has undertaken is to virtually visit with former Y volunteers and staff who provided leadership and experienced the changes over the years. This qualitative research will be part of the material to be documented. To date, 32 visits have taken place and have been recorded. Our thanks to Y Canada that has provided us with cloud storage. We have a list of nearly 100+ and more are being added.



ICYMI (In case you missed it!)

June 20th, 2023 session with Peter Dinsdale — Y Canada

Thank you to all who attended the presentation by Peter Dinsdale!

Peter provided a very informative update on the YMCA and initiatives and events that are taking place. It's never quiet at the Y!

If you missed the presentation, here is the recording:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/70EamVq5a5izQb9mhNbFZTbIJHawdFNqtA8DC1VF2YDkDx9OrYBPpIaFxsyo69kR.zKlliej1ExV2irYR>.

The passcode must be entered to access the recording. **Passcode: \$*Ga5fj2**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Save the dates!

Wednesday, September 13th (1:00PM EDT)

Meaningful Planned Giving to benefit your charity of choice and your estate.

Joining us for this informative session will be Christina Harley, CFRE, Vice President, Development, from the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario and Laura Kelly, Senior Director, Philanthropy from the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka. This session will cover estate planning — how to maximize tax savings now and for your estate.

Watch for an email invitation closer to the date.

Wednesday, October 18th

WFYR (World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees) is hosting its next virtual gathering. The focus of the gathering will be Latin America and the Caribbean YMCAs. There will be multilingual captioning. Watch for an invitation to register in September!

Life in the Slow Lane

(or what a long career in the Y can do to your brain)

Hal Studholme

Today I got up and decided to get something I've been planning to pick up for a week or so. Couldn't remember what it was offhand, but now that I was up, teeth and hearing aids in, most of the pills that didn't get dropped on the floor taken, and my size large Depends on the right way round, I'd likely remember what it is I need on the way up the street in the car.

Lovely day.

I just got to the door when I remembered my wallet and keys. Where the H#@% did I leave them? It took a while to find them because I had mislaid my glasses. Can't do a thing without them. But not everything was a disaster. I found the remote for the TV under the edge of the seat cushion of the couch, with the glasses beside it.

Now I can watch the game tonight!

As I drove out, I was still trying to remember what I left the house for when another something I had to do came to mind. What was it? When was it? Who was it with? I know I had a note about it in my cell phone, but it wasn't in the no-hands caddy by my seat so I couldn't look it up. Strange, it was there the other day when I came back from that Memory Enhancement course I was taking at the YMCA.

It'll come to me.

Darn, I missed my turn a block back, distracted by that funny ringing from somewhere. Sounds like the glove compartment. Oh yeah it's the cell phone. What's it doing in there? Better pull into that parking lot and answer it. I'm very careful to remember to not use the phone while driving. Some people have terrible memories about things like that.

They cause accidents.

It's not my day. I got the phone just as it went to voicemail. When I checked the mail all I heard was some guy yelling at me. It was upsetting. Between the nasty things he was calling me I heard, "Harry! Harry, it's Mike... Mike at Mike's Auto Service. You forgot again! You promised three weeks ago you would come in to pay for the repairs on your car! This is the third time I've called. Harry, you owe me 800 bucks and I'm tired of waiting for my %@#&@ money!" I was taken aback for a moment. Mike? Car repairs? The voice was a bit familiar. Oh my. I remember the car making clunking noises. But I thought I took it to Moe's, or was it Mark's?

Oh My. 800 dollars.

Now I remember! The Dollar store. I wanted to buy something for the VCR. That call jogged my memory. I'll call Moe back tomorrow. Nice guy. Now where was that Dollar store that has the cheap price for....what was it? Yes, batteries.

Did I bring my wallet?

*Harry Studholme
June 2023*



T-SHIRTS & CRESTS

Anyone recognize this handsome young fellow? Yep, it's me, first day on the job at Camp Stephens, June 21, 1960. Fresh off the boat, (Stephens is seven miles out from Kenora Ontario in Lake of the Woods.) and newly transplanted from Toronto West End Y Camp Norval. (just east of Georgetown Ontario on the banks of Silver Creek). That t-shirt I'm wearing was my pride and joy in those halcyon days. Over the years many such shirts were acquired from Stephens. Alas, that one from Norval is gone.

But I digress, as usual. The title of this epistle arises from a discovery in a box from the back of a cupboard in my suite in this assisted living residence. The box had a note on it, "Contents — Y and Camp Stuff." Descriptive and true.

In that box was a plastic bag and in it a veritable treasure trove. CRESTS! Crests like the one on the right, my cherished Leader-in-Training crest, from West End Y. To be an LIT you had made it, at the tender age of twelve, to the first step to being a much vaunted Junior Leader! The crest below is the insignia worn by members of that august group. To be a Junior leader, to wear that crest on a white t-shirt with the red gym shorts sporting a yellow side stripe and completed by white ankle socks and black and white Converse. All Star runners... you had made it! And I had! Oh how I loved that crest and still do! The right of passage to leaderdom in the YMCA.

To wear that uniform meant rubbing shoulders with the big guys who ran all the Saturday morning boys classes, from Midgets to Seniors. You even got your own squad of kids to organize and "manage." Sometimes you got to

help with the Learn-to-Swim classes on weekdays after school. Just to be there with the likes of John Stulac, Jim Fallis, Gord Saunders, Russ Davey and the "Chief," Mr. Ing Jonas himself. That was God country. In those days, the 40s and 50s, if you had the stuff of leadership, you could climb the ranks through Junior and Intermediate to even Senior leader Corps... maybe even Staff!

Lucky, lucky me. I was chosen to be a youth delegate to the World YMCA Centennial in Paris, France. In 1955, I woke up to the real world of the YMCA. Up to then, the Y was at the corner of College St. and Dovercourt Rd, West End Y in Toronto. I had no idea! At seventeen, I was a leader in an organization that spanned the world. What a conference it was, Y people from all over, hundreds of them. Old and young, different languages and backgrounds. I think I made a life-long commitment there to the Y.

From eight-year-old member, through all the leader stages, to staff and back to volunteer, and the Alumni, it's been a seventy-five year journey.

Opening that box started a day-long memory trek for me.

Now the Alumni History program, discovering the Y careers of colleagues... many, *many* t-shirts and crests to discover and explore. What an organization!

Four generations, me, my daughter and son-in-law, grandkids and a great granddaughter, a YMCA family.

God has been good to me.

Hal Studholme, May 2023



DO-GOODERS AND BAD WORDS

Hal Studholme

There I was, flat on my back on a gurney so short my feet hung out and so narrow I feared dropping to the floor on either side. What stopped me from falling was the dozen or more wires connected to those stick on leads on my chest and sides (they go on and stay with you for weeks after). The leads, in turn, go to a TV monitor which is supposed to help Emergency Room staff keep track of you. The monitor, however, has a mind of its own and is constantly beeping, binging, chiming, hooting and wheezing and otherwise producing a minor symphony of signals that the staff completely ignore. But, of course, I was in there for a heart attack so I had no choice but to lay there at the mercy of it all.

In case you're wondering what this has to do with the Y, I believe the heart attack was brought on by an overly vigorous run from the couch to the coffee machine, my usual, Y recommended, morning fitness routine! Back to the Emergency Room...

The real fun began when, in the screened off chamber next to me, a lady was wheeled in for treatment. I couldn't tell what she was in for but after a few moments of venting her anger and frustration in a voice that could be heard everywhere in the hospital, I decided she certainly needed treatment for a foul mouth! She refused those #&%@\$?! Needles and blood tests, also the hook-ups to the #&%@\$?! monitor and especially resented "All you #&%@\$?! DO-GOODERS!!"

Now, having pondered the many different behaviors of my fellow humans, I wondered what was wrong with being a "DO-GOODER." Yes, the term has been used to describe some who are helpful or caring in an overly unctuous fashion for only their personal satisfaction, but in a straight forward sense, I would think being a "DO-GOODER" is a good thing. Certainly all those doctors, nurses and aids in that Emergency were "DO-DOODERS" in the very best sense. I had no doubt that they were trying their best to ease pain, start healing and bring some comfort and hope to those of us in their care. And they were good at it. At one and the same time I felt annoyance for, but also a vague understanding of, what my neighbour was going through. Most likely, her life was one of pain, disappointment and frustration in a generally uncaring world. And some of her helpers in other agencies probably were the "feel-good-about-myself DO-GOODERS."

My upbringing was one where mom told me to be nice, and my dad was quick to chide me for anything unkind that he saw me do. My whole YMCA experience as a youngster was about being fair, honest, helpful and, in truth, to become a "DO-GOODER!" I would go so far as to declare that we of the Y, we Alumni, are a company of "DO-GOODERS!" I would hope we'd be proud of the appellation.

My "DO-GOODER" friends, now for the hard part of my treatise... *bad words*, or one in particular. You know the one. It is offensive, overused in all its forms... noun, verb, adjective, whatever. I can't say I have never used the word, but I try hard not to. I admit, however, saying it to my car when it won't start on a minus 30 degree day! So when I lay on that Emergency Room gurney and listened to the ranting in the next cubicle, I thought hard about dealing with the outrage on my sensibilities of the moment. What I came up with may sound far-fetched, but bear with me while I try to explain my thinking.

The word, lets refer to it as #&%@, has been known as far back as the 1400s and, apparently, well used even then. Yet, over all the centuries its core meaning has remained: LOVE, TO LOVE in its infinitive form. STOP YELLING AT ME, YES IT DOES! But our innate human capacity to sully things, good things, has degraded #&%@ into the offensive expression we all abhor. So, what's the point I'm trying to make, you ask? Well, still on my back on my gurney, all wired up and uncomfortable, I decided, every time I heard that word to mentally translate it into LOVE. Thus the rants became, "Loving do-gooders! I hate this loving place! Love your loving blood tests." Believe it or not, it began to work! It even had a humorous effect on me. I began to chuckle to myself each time I heard the word and translated it.

You might, by now, be saying, "Hal has finally lost it. All those laps around the Y gym has done him in, poor lad." Nope. I think I really came up with a personal way to deal with my offense when I hear the word, #&%@ — even when it is aimed at me!

So, my alumni friends, give my translation trick a try, and continue to be **LOVING DO-GOODERS!**

REMEMBERING OUR ALUMNI



William (Bill) Gerhardt **1932 – 2023**

An obituary informs others about the deceased person's life giving family history, life accomplishments and other interesting facts. However, the obituary cannot tell you about the person's character and the influence they have had on people who were lucky enough to have known the deceased.

This is the case with Bill's obituary. It outlined his successful 23 year career with the YMCA in Halifax, Montreal and Moncton. Bill's funeral at his beloved St. Martin's in the Woods Anglican Church told the other half of his story. The church was filled to overflowing. The highlight of the service were the 3 eulogies given by his sons John and David and grandson-in-law Alex. They spoke about how "good a person "he was. That phrase was repeated several times. John and David were so proud to be his sons and Alex proud to be a member of the Gerhardt family. They saw how he was a major influence in the lives of many young people at the Moncton Y. They saw that he was a great listener and truly interested in the circumstances of the hundreds, possibly thousands, of young people who came through the doors of the Y on Highfield St. in Moncton.

So many of us who attended his funeral were pleased to learn more about Bill's personal life. His love for his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren was a side of Bill that many of us didn't know much about. His work in the community was impressive and illustrated again how "good a

person" he was. When David asked how many folks present had a connection with the Y, therefore Bill, over half of the congregation raised the hand. That was a testimony to the power of his influence in the lives of so many people. We felt happy to identify ourselves as part of Bill's work at the different Ys and communities in which he worked and lived.

During the reception in the church hall following the service, which again was very well attended, we had an opportunity to share with each other our personal favourite memories of Bill. It was a commonly expressed sentiment that he was a very important person in our teen years. Many great stories recounting a variety of situations where he dealt with the challenges we presented as teenagers of the 60s and 70s were told and generated lots of laughter.

Bill was responsible for starting the Moncton Y Alumni Hub. We have been so fortunate to have him and Bette at the majority of the meetings over the years. They were regular participants at our famous summer and Christmas parties. We were lucky enough to have both of them at our 2022 Christmas celebration. He was happy to be surrounded by so many people that he had a direct and powerful influence on their lives. We didn't realize at the time that would be the last time many of us were to see him before his health became very poor and then his death in June.

Bill's obituary was detailed and informative but the special time we had at his funeral and reception gave us an opportunity to learn more about how "good a person" he was. I count myself extremely fortunate to have had Bill involved in my life during my formative years. My career choice to work for the YMCA is a direct result of the example set by Bill. His continued interest in my involvement with the national Y Alumni was evident right up to the end of his life. I will always be grateful for that.

Bill lived a good life and created opportunities for so many of us to have good lives as well. Thank you, Bill, or "Mr. G." as he was known to us back in the days of our youth.

Submitted by Trudy Brydges | Moncton Y Hub Alumni member

Bill's obituary My be found here [Eric "Bill" Gerhardt \(cobbsfuneralhome.ca\)](https://cobbsfuneralhome.ca)



Jacqueline Maria Kennedy née Devaney May 12, 1940 – May 26, 2023

It is with deep sadness that the family announces the passing of Jacqueline on May 26, 2023, at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre's Reactivation Care Centre.

Jacqueline was born on May 12, 1940, during World War II, in London, England to Margaret and Hugh Devaney. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, James Arthur Kennedy and her daughter

Jacqueline Kennedy-Tinoco (Jaime Tinoco). Loving sister to Patrick Devaney (Carole Devaney) and Marguerite Meier (Manfred Meier), she was predeceased by her brother Joseph Devaney, nephew James Manning and sister-in-law Marie Manning. Aunt to Carrie Pollock, Patrick Devaney and Marielle Manning, she will be missed by all.

Jacqueline spent her early years in London, England until the family moved to Toronto, Canada in 1948. Having served with Australian and New Zealand forces during the war, her father was keen to see the other side of the world and moved the family to New Zealand in 1956. They later moved to Australia before returning to Canada in 1961.

Jacqueline attended St. Joseph's Commercial School in Toronto and began her working career at Massey-Ferguson. She spent many happy years working at the National Council of YMCAs of Canada, thoroughly enjoying the camaraderie and fellowship there until her retirement.

Her passions included the arts, reading and gardening. She was a supporter of the National Ballet of Canada, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and a past member of the Toronto Botanical Gardens. She found it difficult to pass by a nursery or bookstore without "having a look".

She loved to dance and sing and was always appreciative of a great laugh. She was an extrovert by nature and never went anywhere without striking up a conversation and making a new friend.

The family would like to thank Sunnybrook and the many doctors, nurses and observers who treated Jacqueline with kindness and care since her stay in February of 2023. We'd also like to thank the social workers who assisted the family in making many decisions for Jacqueline along the way.

Condolences may be forwarded through www.humphreymiles.com.



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I want to hear from you! Comments please!

Each month your editor and team works to pull together interesting stories and provide articles that you might enjoy reading. I am so very thankful to those who provide such thoughtful content for me to insert and share. Last month, Hal asked the question if folks would like to continue to hear his musings — and we received positive feedback, of course — the best, though, came from member Patricia Pelton, who enjoys Hal’s musings and suggested that we add a comments section to our newsletter to make it more interactive. I would be delighted to receive and share your thoughts on articles you read in our TieLines.

Please send along to me at dianadeakinthomas@gmail.com.

Thank You!

Staff at YMCA of Northern Alberta lay out and prepare TieLines for production. Thanks to Nick Parkinson (President and CEO), Amber Niemeier (Chief Community Engagement Officer) and designer Abdullah Al-Nono. Franca D’Angelo (General Manager, National Office YMCA Canada) and Alexandra Mooney (Y Canada) distribute TieLines for us. And of course, thanks to Nancy Dube and Marg Flett who check your editor’s work! To Scott Haldane for his beautiful photography used in our TieLines. And to those of you who have contributed this month — **THANK YOU!**

Canadian YMCA Alumni Awards

Nomination Form:

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nomination Category _____ YMCA Contribution _____ Community Contribution _____ Institution

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #s Home _____ Cell _____

Email Address _____

NOMINATION CHECKLIST

We request your nominee NOT be advised of the nomination. Separately please include the following information and details

Volunteer Category

- The type and scope of the service provided
- The duration and time commitment
- The impact on the individuals served
- The impact on the YMCA
- A resume of the individual's service

Institution Category

- The type and scope of the service provided
- The duration and time commitment
- The impact on the Canadian YMCA Alumni

Please include your name, contact information and relationship to the Volunteer or Institution you are nominating.

Name: _____

Contact (email/address): _____

Send your nomination by **October 15, 2023** to Chairman, Awards Committee:

Jim Bonk
Chair, Awards Committee
jmb.bonker@yahoo.ca
34 Borland Dr.
Guelph, ON N1G 5B5



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Photo credit: Diana Deakin-Thomas