

May 2, 2012 / For Immediate Release

Community volunteers – we all win!

AIRDRIE, AB - On May 2, 2012, community leaders, volunteer award nominees and their guests came together at the Volunteer of the Year Awards Night Gala at the Town and Country Centre.

Mayor Peter Brown, City Council and members of the Community Services Advisory Board recognized the winners in four categories. Marty Lawrence of local radio station AIR 106.1 was the master of ceremonies for the evening.

1. **David Lindsay – 2012 Recipient of the Leader of Tomorrow Award** for an Airdrie youth (11 to 18 years) who have shown leadership in the City of Airdrie through his/her volunteer involvement.
2. **Laurence and Linda Ray, Faith Build Organization – 2012 Recipient of the Ambassador Award** for an Airdrie citizen (proprietor) or a business entity that has made an outstanding contribution in promoting the City of Airdrie as a place for community and opportunity through volunteerism and philanthropy.
3. **Rob Van Biezen – 2012 Recipient of the Soul of Airdrie Award** for an Airdrie citizen who has made an outstanding contribution as a volunteer in the fields of art and culture, athletics, social and community services, and/or governance. This individual demonstrates a passion for helping others become resilient contributing members of the community.
4. **Airdrie Food Bank – 2012 Recipient of the Volunteer Advocate Award** for a not-for-profit organization, a volunteer-comprised grassroots committee and/or a community group that has demonstrated community leadership by engaging citizens through volunteerism.

“It is so important to recognize volunteers who willingly sacrifice their time and energy, dedicating themselves to vital services in the community,” says Clay Aragon, Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Coordinator, City of Airdrie. “Everyday someone in Airdrie volunteers and makes a difference. They volunteer because they believe in the importance of helping their neighbours, supporting causes they believe in and contributing to their community.”

Overall, the City received very positive responses to the event with 21 nominations in total. This year’s event was made possible through staff and volunteer contributions of time and funding support from the City of Airdrie.

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