



**TOWN OF BLACKFALDS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: April 13, 2021

PREPARED BY: Sue Bornn, FCSS Manager

SUBJECT: School's Special Nomination

BACKGROUND:

At the March FCSS meeting, the Board was presented with a special nomination for all of the local schools. This special nomination was presented as unique as it is seeking to acknowledge all of the staff members, teachers, administrators and others employed throughout all of the schools in Blackfalds.

As the pandemic unfolded in 2020, each of the schools took innovative approaches with schedules, parades, and drive by year end goodbyes, to ensure the students and families felt connected, supported, and involved in their school communities.

DISCUSSION:

As a result of this discussion:

RES. 13/21

Member Gilchrist moved that FCSS recommend Council acknowledge the essential, exceptional work done by the schools and their staff teams throughout this past year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The FCSS budget includes \$4,500 for the recognition events, a grant from Volunteer Alberta for \$1,250 and a sponsorship from MEGlobal for \$3,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

That Council recognize the Blackfalds Iron Ridge Schools and St. Gregory the Great Catholic School for their extraordinary efforts and capacity to support the children and youth of Blackfalds throughout the past year.


Attachments:

- *Nomination Form*

Approvals:



CAO Myron Thompson



Department Director/Author



Recipients of the Outstanding Group Awards will be invited to the volunteer award presentation that will take place in Council Chambers on April 13th, prior to the Regular Council Meeting.

NOMINEE

Name of Group: IREC, IRIC, IRJC, St. Gregories staff

Main Contact Name: _____

Group or Main Contacts Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Category: Youth Adult

Signature of Group Representative _____

Date _____

Signature of Leader/Coach/Teacher, etc
(if members of group are under 18 years old) _____

Date _____

NOMINATOR

Name: Rebecca Stendie

Address: Box 1092

Phone Number: 403 396 9730

Email: rstendie@outlook.com

Relationship to Nominee: .

Organization: _____

[Signature]
Signature of Nominator

Feb 22, 2021
Date

MEDIA CONSENT

As this is a group nomination, the FCSS Volunteer Programmer will connect with you prior to April 13th to ensure we have appropriate media consent signed for all members of your group attending the award presentation.

Video footage and photographs are deemed a record of information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). This information/photograph/video is being collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and, with your consent, will be used for the purpose described above. Your personal information is protected from unauthorized access, use and disclosure under Part 2 of the FOIP Act. Questions regarding this collection of personal information may be directed to the Records Management & FOIP Coordinator at 403.885.6370 or foip@blackfalds.com

Nomination Deadline: March 1, 2021

1. Please list the groups volunteer involvement in the community. If you need extra space, use additional pieces of paper.

Community Service, Projects, Events	Describe involvement within the community	Approximate # volunteer hours over the past year	Number of years involved within the community
(Example: Annual Food Drive)	(The group hosts an annual spring food drive for the Blackfalds Food Bank where they go door-to-door collecting non-perishable items)	(10 hours)	(4 years)
	have gone over and above for every student during a pandemic!	<u>hundreds!</u>	
	please consider this as a special nomination with extraordinary	circumstances!	

2. In 400 words or fewer, tell us what stands out about this nominee that makes their nomination rise above the others and inspired your nomination. Please include how the group identifies opportunities for improvement and leads through their actions. As well, describe how the group inspires volunteerism in others while they make a significant impact on the work they do.

This paragraph will be used at the Abbey Master Builder Centre display prior to the event and at the awards night. Please limit the amount of personal information you share: if you refer to someone other than the nominee in the write up about the nominee, please do not include personal information that can identify the third party.

In this, 2020-2021, school year, staff, teachers, EA's, Principals and Vice Principals, Librarians, school Counsellors, cleaning staff, and everyone else employed at IREC, IRIC, IRJC, and St. Gregory the Great have stepped up in unmeasurable ways for the students of Blackfalds. They have put aside their own fears and worries and maintained stable learning environments for the kids in our community. They have been there for parents as well, easing their own worries, sending kids back to schools with new pandemic measures in place. In a time when our kids needed it the most, school staff masked up, sanitized their hands and said to parents "we've got this. We've got *them*."

Staff have had to be inventive in how they do everything from lunchtime to gym time. They created schedules for park play, reinvented pickups and drop-offs and got creative about teaching in the classroom with all the new rules. They made sure that students felt special and were recognized at the end of the school year in the spring of 2020 with parades, drive-by year end good-byes, and extra emails and letters. They spent countless hours above and beyond those that they are paid for to make sure that students could connect when school went virtual. And they continue to make sure that no student is left behind.

Thank you to every staff at each of these schools for the extra hours, the extra cleaning, the extra love you show our kids, and the patience you show our parents. On behalf of Blackfalds, thank you!

Outstanding Group Awards

The purpose of the Outstanding Group Awards is to recognize groups of 3 or more people, an organization, society or team that has come together to volunteer time through leadership, innovation and creativity. The awards will recognize groups in two categories; youth and adult.

The recipient of the awards will be chosen through a selection process facilitated by Blackfalds Family & Community Support Services Board.

Award Criteria:

- Must be a Blackfalds based group of 3 or more people, an organization, society or team
- Identifies opportunities for improvement
- Leads through their actions
- The work they do has a significant impact on the community
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to the community
- Inspires volunteerism in others

Guidelines:

- Nominations submitted incomplete, or do not comply with criteria may be disqualified.
- Nominations cannot be submitted without the consent from the group.
- Nominations made by current affiliation of the group will not be accepted.
- By signing the nomination form, the group representative agrees to the nomination process and groups are encouraged to attend volunteer recognition events scheduled in April.
- Nominations become the property of Blackfalds Family & Community Support Services and will not be returned.

Recipient of the Outstanding Group Awards will receive:

- A letter of acknowledgment and appreciation
- A Certificate of Recognition
- Their group name placed on the Outstanding Group Award plaque at the Blackfalds Family & Community Support Services office
- Nomination will be put forward to provincial recognition programs, as applicable