



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Community Builder Award – Jane Torrance

When you hear the name Jane Torrance, you may think: “leader,” “Puppets Up! Mastermind,” “tireless volunteer,” or “community cheerleader”. We can also add Councillor, advocate, and bagpipe enthusiast extraordinaire to the list.

Jane has spent the last three decades demonstrating her commitment to the well-being of Mississippi Mills and its residents through her countless contributions to community organizations and projects. As it’s been said, she has worn so many hats over the years that it is challenging to recall them all, but a short list includes roles as President of the Almonte Community Coordinators (The Hub); Co-Chair of Almonte Celtfest; member of the Mississippi Mills Festival Consortium; Secretary of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 240; Facilitator with Lanark County Community Justice and Chair of the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre.

And Jane’s most recent accomplishment perhaps tops them all, with the return of the much beloved Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival earlier this month. After a 6-year hiatus, the streets of Almonte again saw some of the best and most innovative puppetry from around the world in a festival that was bigger and better than ever before! Thanks to the dedication of Jane as Director and her Festival Team, scores of volunteers and sponsors were inspired to bring puppet-magic back to Mississippi Mills after some difficult pandemic years, Jane and her team reconnected the community to celebrate, laugh and have a lot of fun together again. What a resounding success!

I’d like to share with you some of the comments noted in Jane’s nomination file:

“I have consistently been impressed and amazed by Jane’s positive, tireless and responsible approach to everything she has taken on. She leads by example and is an outstanding role model and mentor, both to me personally and to many other volunteers and community members which whom she has interacted. Our community is decidedly richer for her ongoing involvement.”

“Jane’s community contributions reflect her inspirational and versatile leadership, dedication to innovative possibilities and commitment to positive change.”

"If anyone has made a lifelong and lasting impression on our community it is Jane Torrance."

On behalf of Council, I'd like to recognize Jane Torrance for her years of dedication and commitment to Mississippi Mills and present her with the Community Builder Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christa Lowry', written in a cursive style.

Christa Lowry
Mayor of Mississippi Mills