



## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

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**DID YOU KNOW** that April 27 to May 3, 2003 is National Volunteer Week. Let us celebrate the spirit of courage, caring and community.

# DID YOU KNOW?

AN INFORMATION SHEET FOR ST. JOHN AMBULANCE MEMBERS

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to put the spotlight on Canadians who quietly and without fanfare make a meaningful difference in our communities. A time to honor the volunteers, both past and present, who donate their time and energy and to raise awareness of the vital contribution volunteers make to our organization. Volunteers bring enthusiasm, skills, fresh perspective and vitality to voluntary organizations across the country without expecting monetary compensation.

There are over 6.5 million volunteers in Canada. Volunteers contribute more than 1 billion volunteer hours—equal to 549,000 full-time, year-round jobs. Canadian volunteers who dedicate countless hours for the benefit of others are an inspiration for all Canadians. These volunteers have the right to be recognized for their contribution. We not only have to recognize our volunteers during National Volunteer Week but all year long by giving gifts of praise, consideration, gratitude, attention, and inspiration.

The following poems are dedicated to our volunteers:

### Why Be A Volunteer

*-author unknown*

It's not for fortune  
It's not for fame  
It's not for only personal gain  
It's not for love of fellowman  
Or just to lend a helping hand  
It's not for medals worn with pride  
It's for the feeling deep inside  
Of helping others far and near  
That makes you want to volunteer

### Valuable Is the Work You Do

*-author unknown*

Valuable is the work you do.  
Outstanding is how you always come through.  
Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer,  
Untiring in your efforts throughout the year...  
Notable are the contributions you make.  
Trustworthy in every project you take.  
Eager to reach your every goal.  
Effective in the way you fulfill your role.  
Ready with a smile like a shining star,  
Special and wonderful—that's what you are.

“Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind, but great actions speak to all mankind”

*Quote by Emily P. Bissell*

St. John Ambulance volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization and we recognize and thank our volunteers for their achievements and contributions to our goals.

*Additional Resources: “Chicken Soup for the Volunteer Soul” by Jack Confield et al. and [www.volunteer.ca](http://www.volunteer.ca)*