

# Shirley Broostad named 2017 Acton Citizen of the Year

**KATHRYN BOYLE**  
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The Acton Rotary Club has announced Shirley Broostad as the 2017 Acton Citizen of the Year.

The recipient, longtime Acton resident Broostad, was announced last week for her determination in volunteering in a number of community service groups for over 20 years.

In 1961, Broostad and her husband, Lloyd, moved to Acton from Edmonton and began construction on their home, where they still live. Broostad was a nursing instructor for a number of years at both the University of Guelph and Conestoga College. She retired from her work in 1990, and decided she wanted to

spend her new-found time doing things in the community.

One of the first things she did was Scout and Guide Mothers, where she met a lot of other mothers and did things for the community, like feed Rotary Club members at a local hall and have a booth at annual fairs. She has also been a part of the local Anglican Church, and is part of many volunteer ministries there.

Sometime in the 1990s, Lloyd joined the local Y'smen, a local service group with the YMCA, so that made Broostad a Y'smenette.

"We had a long, long time with them," she explained. "As a Y'smenette, I was part of the women's group. We could do things

and incorporate our children into it because they wanted to help, too."

Every year, the Y'smenette held a well-received auction and made a lot of money doing it. The couple were a part of those service groups until the YMCA closed.

In the late 1990s, Broostad joined Links2Care where she worked in telephone reassurance, and that had a big impact on her life.

"It's a commitment," she said.

Through the program, Broostad called the same lady every single day and chatted for a few minutes. They didn't know each other in real life, but quickly formed a friendship Broostad won't soon forget.

"I really felt I helped one



Kathryn Boyle/Metroland

Shirley Broostad, above, has been nominated as this year's Acton Citizen of the Year. She has been recognized for her many years of volunteer work with many local organizations.

lady in calling her every day," she said. "I didn't even know her, but we were friends on the phone, and I found that very inter-

esting."

By the end of her time with Links2Care, she was presented with a 15 years of service plaque, which can

still be found in her dining room.

Another thing Broostad did was All Star Reading, where she went into three local schools and helped students improve their reading skills.

As Broostad approached her senior years, she joined the Halton West senior's planning and education committee, which she chaired until it became redundant as the senior centres came to town.

Through the committee, Broostad went on to join Safe Communities, which she's been with through many name changes and many years.

"Things kind of flowed for me and the opportunity

● See VOLUNTEERING page 15



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