

Rev. John Roberts (far right) of Milton recently received a volunteer award from the federal government for his work with the RCMP. Here, he poses with RCMP members and other recipients.

Reverend gets federal award

By RICHARD VIVIAN

The Champion

Milton Rev. John Roberts received national attention September 10 when the federal government presented him with a volunteerism award on CTV's Canada AM.

"I think it was very nice. I'm very pleased," Rev. Roberts told The Champion. "I always feel awkward when it comes to any recognition. I'm always embar-

assed."

The award follows 10 years of volunteer work as a chaplain with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

As chaplain, Rev. Roberts provides counselling services for members of the force in both personal and job-related fields.

In cases of disaster — like Swiss Air flight 111 at Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia — Rev. Roberts also provides grief counselling for vic-

tims of tragedy and their families.

"He was extremely well-liked by the officers in Peggy's Cove," said Const. Mike Cote of the RCMP. "He's a jovial fellow, a gentleman that makes you feel comfortable. We certainly consider ourselves lucky to have him on board as part of our organization."

The award presentation was made in conjunction with the International Year of the Volunteer, as declared by the United Nations.

Dinner at restaurant planned to raise funds for New York

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