



Community Safety Awards 2011
Winner profile: Patrick Mates
Community Safety Volunteer Award

Patrick Mates has spent the past 53 years volunteering to make his community a better place to live. From scouting to soccer, youth justice and community safety, Patrick has been there—and made a difference.

After moving to Ottawa in the late sixties, he spent 15 years serving as a soccer coach, referee and club administrator. He founded a recreational league that put the focus on fun for over 600 players.

Later, Patrick joined the youth diversion program of the Ottawa Youth Justice Committee, with the goal of keeping young offenders out of the court system. He worked closely with troubled youth, bringing them together with the victims of their crimes in community justice circles.

In 2003, he joined the Ottawa Police Service as a Home Security Inspection volunteer at the Wellington Community Police Centre. Today, he coordinates the program. It's a role he loves because he believes in it. After all, Patrick is passionate about helping people stay safe in their homes and their communities.

Patrick trains the Ottawa Police Service's 350 Home Security Inspection volunteers. Recently, he updated and improved the training manual and created the Residents' Guide to Home Security based on his own extensive research.

He also dedicates his time to conducting home security inspections. He's known for going above and beyond the call of duty—often using his “handyman” skills to help elderly residents improve the security of their homes.

Patrick devotes 500 hours each year to his role. What drives him? In Patrick's words, “I want Ottawa to be known as a safe city, so anything I can do to make it that way is something I want to focus on.” Now that's dedication!

For information, contact:

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