

2009 GOOD NEIGHBOUR AWARD WINNERS

The Association of Neighbourhood Houses' 25th annual Good Neighbour Awards Ceremony was held in Vancouver last month to honour outstanding volunteers who, in innumerable ways, have selflessly dedicated their valuable time to our Neighbourhood Houses and to their communities. More than 300 people attended the event and more than 24 people were honored.

Winners this year from Alexandra Neighbourhood House were Gary Crawford and Alison and Andrew Nichol.



**Andrew and Alison Nichol- Youth Winners
Alexandra Neighbourhood House**

Andrew and Alison have been volunteering at Camp Alexandra since 2005. Andrew is a Grade 11 student and Alison is in Grade 9 at Elgin Park Secondary School.

Both Andrew and Alison are active members of the Alex House Youth Advisory Council, where Andrew excels in contributing ideas and project management, while Alison is the one who pulls it all together. They are the first to volunteer at community events and summer camp, and completed the Counsellor in Training program this summer.

An avid reader, Andrew is an invaluable part of the library team at Elgin Park and has recently been given the responsibility of training new library assistants. Andrew also participates in the Elgin Park debate club as well as being actively involved in Surrey Parks and Rec Youth Council and Scouts; he has been the recipient of the Chief Scouts Award and more recently, the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

Alison is an avid swimmer who competes in the summer with Crescent Beach Swim Club and for her school in the winter season. She has her Bronze Medallion and is working on her Bronze Cross. Alison also participates in highland dancing, soccer and is actively involved with Surrey Parks and Rec Youth Council organizing events for other youth in the local community. Alison recently participated in WE Day, a joint initiative by Free the Children and the Dalai Lama Centre for Peace and Education, celebrating the power of young people to change the world.

Congratulations Gary, Ali and Andrew!



**Gary Crawford -Neighbour House Winner
Alexandra Neighbourhood House**

Gary has volunteered at the Camp for nearly 20 years in a wide variety of roles including gardening and groundskeeping, exterior and interior maintenance and painting, set up and take down at community events, deep cleaning in places no one else can ever get to, helping in the kitchen for community dinners and being the able and willing assistant at the Social Fun Club for more than 15 years.

In the wider community, Gary also volunteers at the Crescent Beach legion, helping to provide the Friday night dinner, and previously he volunteered at the Canadian Museum of Flight for many years.

