

The following article is taken from the Service NB News Release:

FREDERICTON (CNB) - Eight New Brunswick individuals and organizations received Community Star Awards today for their efforts to prevent substance abuse in their communities.

Health Minister Mary Schryer congratulated the recipients for their dedication.

"Each of these volunteers is a community champion," said Schryer. "They have participated in awareness and prevention of substance abuse, thereby helping their communities becoming healthier and safer places in which to live."

The recipients are:

- Angee Acquin of St. Mary's First Nation. She is a licensed practical nurse and senior youth mentor with St. Mary's Youth Leadership Enrichment;
- Donat Paulin of Campbellton. He is an emergency medical technician and volunteer with youth soccer.
- Dalton Francis of Eel Ground First Nation. He is a counsellor with the Rising Sun Aboriginal Rehabilitation Centre at Eel Ground First Nation;
- Marie Kryszko of Big River. She is an alcohol and drug addictions counsellor, Papineau First Nation, as well as youth sports coach and volunteer;
- Audrey Laurent of Au Lac. She is a foster parent;
- Opération Nez Rouge - Péninsule Acadienne. Opération Nez Rouge (Operation Red Nose) is a volunteer program providing safe rides home during the holiday season to motorists who have been drinking or who do not feel fit to drive their vehicles.
- PASAGE Saint John Inc., of Saint John - Preventing Addiction Substance Abuse and Gambling Education; and
- Michel Thériault of Grand Falls. Thériault, a dental surgeon by profession, delivers motivational presentations to youth.

The awards are given out as part of Addiction Awareness Week, Nov. 16-21. Schryer invited all New Brunswickers to take part in activities to address the harmful use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs and gambling.

"In the Provincial Health Plan, our government committed to encouraging wellness," said Schryer. "This means we have to focus on problems such as mental health and addictions, while placing greater emphasis on promoting healthy child and adolescent development."

For more information, visit or call the local addiction services centre or visit the Department of Health [website](#).

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