



## ***Cabbagetown Preservation Association Volunteer Award***

The 2016 *Cabbagetown Preservation Association Volunteer Award* is presented to  
***Sheila Schirmer***

Sheila formally joined the Board of the *Cabbagetown Preservation Association* in 1998. She was recruited by the late Peggy Kurtin. Sheila brought to the CPA her calm, professional and thoughtful work ethic. She has always had a great enthusiasm for all things Cabbagetown.

In 2001, fifteen years ago, Sheila brought an idea to the board of the *Cabbagetown Preservation Association*.

The ***Cabbagetown People Program*** evolved from Sheila's idea to salute not just the bricks and mortar of the neighbourhood, but also the men and women who lived in the neighbourhood, all of whom provide a cultural and heritage link to Canada's colourful past. Their stories, their achievements and their legacies are the threads of a community proud of its unique identity and heritage, all of which help to make up the historical fabric of Canada.

The program has honoured many remarkable lives from Cabbagetown's past by installing commemorative plaques at residential and other strategic places throughout the neighbourhood and also recognizes other outstanding pioneers in various fields whose stories are told on the *Cabbagetown People* website, in publications and on guided walking tours.

What makes *Cabbagetown People* a truly unique heritage program is that it honours a broad range of individuals (no longer living) who have made contributions to the community, to Toronto, to the province, to the country and internationally. The program salutes not only famous (or infamous) persons but also historical figures, or people who have distinguished themselves in their occupations or careers. It also honours the average person who has contributed to the community and left a lasting legacy. The program underscores the ability of any individual to be a "hero", of ordinary persons to do extraordinary things regardless of how humble their circumstances. These "heroes" stand side-by-side the famous and legendary.

A few people helped Sheila along the way. Her current team includes Alan Waterhouse, Christopher Dew, Margaret Rutledge and Gilles Huot.

The *Cabbagetown People Program* was winner of the 2013 *Heritage Toronto Community Heritage Award for Toronto and East York Community Council* area.

On behalf of the *Cabbagetown Preservation Association*, we acknowledge and thank Sheila for her lasting contributions to the Cabbagetown community.

Gilles Huot  
*Co-Chair*

David Pretlove  
*Co-Chair*

November 2016