

The Honourable | L'honorable

David McGuintyMember of Parliament | Député
Ottawa South | Ottawa-Sud**The National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians initiates special review**

I am pleased to provide my constituents with an update regarding my work as Chair of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians:

The National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP) is conducting a special review of the allegations that have been raised in the context of the Prime Minister's trip to India in February 2018, specifically those relating to foreign interference in Canadian political affairs, risks to the security of the Prime Minister, and inappropriate use of intelligence.

In doing so, the Committee considered the Senate of Canada's amended motion from March 28, 2018 stating that NSICOP may be an appropriate forum to review the security and intelligence operating procedures in relation to diplomatic and foreign visits involving the Government of Canada.

These are serious issues which could have important implications for Canada's national security and sovereignty. An examination of the decisions and actions of security and intelligence organizations and officials falls within the purview of NSICOP's mandate.

As the Chair of NSICOP, I have notified the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness of the Committee's review.

In accordance with section 21(2) of the NSICOP Act, the Committee will provide the Prime Minister and his Ministers with a special report by the end of May. An unclassified version of the report must be tabled in both Houses of Parliament.



(613) 990-8640
david.mcguinty@parl.gc.ca
www.davidmcguinty.ca



Photo courtesy of Jeff Dubois

Ottawa-Orléans MPP Marie-France Lalonde, left, and Ottawa South MPP John Fraser, right, presented Ontario Volunteer Service Awards to longtime directors with the Ottawa PC Users' Group at Tudor Hall on April 16, including Chris Taylor, Bob Walker, Jocelyn Doire and Greenboro's Brigitte Lord.

High-tech volunteers honoured for community service

BY ERIN MCCrackEN

Longtime volunteers with an Ottawa group that helps people become more tech savvy come by their organization's motto of 'users helping users' honestly.

Six of the volunteers have chalked up a combined total of 127 volunteer years with the not-for-profit Ottawa PC Users' Group, which promotes the use of technology.

"I thought, 'Wow, our guys have volunteered three times longer than Microsoft has even been around,'" said Jeff Dubois, a Canterbury resident who serves on the group's board of directors in the areas of public relations and meeting co-ordination. "It just shows their passion for technology."

He nominated the members for the Ontario Volunteer Service Award through the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. The awards were presented to volunteers from several Ottawa-area organizations during a ceremony at Tudor Hall in the Hunt Club community on April 16.

The computer group recipients include president Chris Taylor for 30 years, membership co-ordinator Mark Cayer for 25 years, facilities co-ordinator Robert Walker for 20 years, special events co-ordinator Jocelyn Doire for 15 years, treasurer Alan German for 15 years and newsletter editor and webmaster Brigitte Lord for 15 years.

Lord, a Greenboro resident, has been a member of the PC Users' Group since 1998. She went on to become its webmaster in 2000 and newsletter editor in 2003.

"When I joined they needed a webmaster. I knew nothing. I had just learned to use Windows 3.1," Lord recalled.

While she didn't know much about the webmaster's role, she did her homework.

"Being young and fearless I thought, I'll give it a crack," Lord said with a laugh. "I looked at the code behind the pages and I figured it out."

She was pleasantly surprised when she learned Dubois had nominated six directors for the volunteer recognition.

"I actually wanted to decline because I'm behind

the scenes," Lord said. "But I definitely feel good about that (recognition). It's a very nice acknowledgement of all our work."

The PC Users' Group formed in 1982 and draws members from across Ottawa and beyond to its monthly meetings at the Canada Science and Aviation Museum. The directors are currently searching for a new venue come September.

The meetings are open to everyone and feature troubleshooting discussions and talks given by members and guest speakers from outside the PC group.

The organization also partners with the Ottawa Public Library to provide free talks on different tech-related subjects for the public, ranging from digital cameras to protecting against computer viruses, for example. This fall, the group will deliver its 500th presentation at a library branch.

Dubois was elated when he found out his application to nominate the group of volunteers had been approved.

"The reason I submitted the

application is it's one thing to say thank you, but how does a group show members of the group who've done some outstanding contributions that appreciation other than saying thank you?" said Dubois. "I was quite pleased when I got the news. These people are really deserving of this."

Volunteers are the backbone of any community.

"Your community is defined by the people within it and if your people are all pitching in ... you really want to encourage that," Dubois said. "It's important to recognize people when they do that little extra."

For more details about the computer group, visit www.opcug.ca.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Ottawa PC Users' Group will give a free 'Windows Performance Tune-up' talk at the Alta Vista library branch on May 30, from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. For registration details, visit www.biblioottawalibrary.ca.

emccracken@ottawavoic.ca