

Nomination Form

All board members of Tennis Yukon (Brian Whitfield, Dave Sanyal, Mikko Jarvinen, and Vickie Roche) would like to nominate Stacy Lewis for Volunteer of the Year.

Stacy Lewis started Tennis Yukon in September 2007 because we did not have a tennis organization nor formal tennis programming. Stacy grew up playing tennis and knew it would be a great life-time activity in the Yukon for people of all ages, income levels and abilities.

In 2008, Stacy (as President of Tennis Yukon) hired a year-round coach to teach tennis. After years of advocacy, in 2011 Tennis Yukon assumed the lease to manage the Mt Mac courts so we could receive funding for court re-surfacing. With the newly surfaced courts, Stacy instituted a season pass system so the courts could be maintained, and we could gradually grow a nest egg and be ready for the next time the courts needed resurfacing.

We achieved our savings target every year, and with careful management, we managed to go 10 years before re-surfacing (even though the industry standard is 7-8 years and the snow is hard on the court surface).

Stacy has averaged 10-20 hours/week (without pay) over the past 14 years. Stacy is the reason Tennis Yukon was able to accomplish the following:

- (1) Reinvigorate the Capital Cup (a friendly annual challenge with Juneau).
- (2) Organize and deliver multi-sport camps in partnership with other sport groups in Whitehorse.
- (3) Organize and implement tennis lessons at various schools and organizations in Whitehorse. Supply equipment, instruction, and arrange outdoor court sessions to provide an introduction to tennis and opportunity to play for hundreds of children.
- (4) Send teams to the Canada Games, Western Canada Summer Games, and Senior Games. Some of these junior players became coaches.
- (5) Grow the annual season pass holders to about 200.
- (6) Provide year-round tennis programming by using the Mt Mac courts in the summer and various gyms and the CGC in the winter.
- (7) Arrange extra training and competition for high-performance junior players, including chaperoning and managing trips to tournaments in Alaska, BC, NWT, and Washington State.
- (8) Allow us to move quickly and be one of the first sports in the Yukon to come up with a COVID-safe return-to-play program and offer Yukoners a recreational opportunity when those were scarce.
- (9) Organize coaching courses in the Yukon to grow coaching capacity and expertise; all Tennis Yukon instructors are certified by Tennis Canada through a 40-hour course, and two coaches are certified as Tennis Canada Coach 2.
- (10) Secure grants to fund various aspects of the association's needs.
- (11) Provide an up-to-date website.

If it wasn't for Stacy, Tennis Yukon would not continue. We appreciate her dedication, leadership and work ethic. We are merely a few of the many lives that Stacy has influenced throughout the years. She has truly made a positive change in our community.

Stacy is passionate about tennis and helping others. She is the reason we have 200 members, sufficient money in our bank account to resurface the courts and buy equipment and provide a diverse tennis programme to members of all ages, income levels and abilities. Stacy is a role model in our club and has sustained achievement through vision, determined application and hard work.

Stacy used her own initiative to start a tennis organization that benefits the whole community and enables people of all ages, abilities and income levels to play tennis. She continued to enrich the lives of others over the past 14 years with her ongoing vision, initiative, commitment and dedication. Stacy is different from other board members because she knows the full history of the association and continues to do most of the work.

Stacy is a true advocate for getting the younger generation into tennis. She was responsible for starting a tennis programme in local schools and providing summer tennis camps.

Stacy loaned money to the club for four years to help cover coaching costs and taxes until the club was self-sufficient.

In summary, the Board of Directors of Tennis Yukon believe Tennis Yukon exists today because of Stacy.