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NEWS RELEASE

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Mayor Announces Community Senior Award Recipient

GRAVENHURST, ON – Gravenhurst resident Sharon Morton has been selected to receive the Ontario Senior of the Year Award for 2017.

During the 33rd Annual Mayors Tea, held Tuesday afternoon at the Gravenhurst Opera House, Mayor Paisley Donaldson shared the exciting announcement with attendees.

The Ontario Senior of the Year Award gives each municipality in Ontario the opportunity to honour one outstanding local Ontarian who after the age of 65 has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of his or her community.

“Ms. Morton has been, and continues to be an active participant of the community since making Gravenhurst her permanent home in 1997, but has been a part of our community as a cottager since 1955,” said Mayor Donaldson.

While Sharon lost her eyesight at an early age, it has not held her back from being a champion in her community. As a founding member of the CNIB Simcoe Ambassador Team, Sharon has volunteered her time to help others adjust to living with sight loss and has worked to educate the greater community about accessibility challenges and changing typical stereotypes. An active Lions Club member, Sharon served as Club President in Bala for five terms and will begin her second term as Lions Club President in Gravenhurst this year. Her involvement with the Lions Club has provided her the opportunity to volunteer her time on several worthy community projects.

“Through her many activities with the CNIB Simcoe-Muskoka to her involvement over the years with the Gravenhurst Lions Club and the municipality’s Accessibility Advisory Committee, Sharon has definitely had a very positive impact on this community,” said Donaldson.

“Gravenhurst is very fortunate to have so many volunteers and we are extremely proud to be presenting this award in conjunction with the Province of Ontario’s recognition program, especially on the same day that we recognize the contribution of all seniors in Gravenhurst through the Mayor’s Tea,” the Mayor added.

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