



## "It's a family affair," says Community Service Award winner



Wes Schollenberg and 2008 Winnipeg REALTORS® president Darlene Clare.

Wes Schollenberg says it was his parents, Ed and Hilda, who inspired him to become a volunteer in the community.

"It starts there," said the recipient of the Winnipeg REALTORS® 2008 Community Service Award at the recent awards banquet. "Raising six kids, my parents were always involved in the community. My father, who passed away a few years ago, was a Scout leader for 10 years and a Shriner who raised funds for their hospital. He was always active."

Following the example set by his parents, Schollenberg has been involved in a number of community organizations and fund-raising efforts over the years.

Winnipeg REALTORS® 2008 president Darlene Clare explained at the recent 2009 awards banquet that members of the association are asked to nominate a colleague whom they feel has made a substantial contribution to their community.

"The award is given to an individual whom a committee of peers deems worthy, and this year's winner is a truly an inspiration to us all," she added, outlining Schollenberg's many accomplishments:

- Volunteer for Safe Grad.
- Delivers Christmas Cheer Board hampers.
- Volunteers at his local community club.
- Has worked at Siloam Mission.
- Has volunteered at Winnipeg Harvest.
- Is a Boy Scout leader and has served on its area group committee.
- Campaigns for the United Way.
- Speaks on behalf of the Transcona Optimists at high schools.
- Has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity.
- Is the director of his church.
- Is a youth councillor at his church.
- Is a Sunday school teacher.
- Is an Alzheimer Society volunteer.
- Has delivered to Meals on Wheels clients.

- Donates his time working at auctions for the Rainbow Society.

- Volunteers at Winnipeg Child and Family Services as a speaker and coach for adoptive parents.

- Served on the facility selections committee, has been an advisor and volunteer at Kinderworld Daycare.

- Sat on the parent council, was a cook and fair organizer for Sun Valley Elementary School.

- Raised thousands of dollars, along with his wife Chris, for the Children's Rehabilitation Centre Foundation.

"It's a bit of a family affair," said Schollenberg. "When you have five kids, you have to give back to your community club and the community overall."

For the last five years, Schollenberg has run in the Manitoba Marathon to raise funds for the mentally challenged.

"It started out as a way to become physically fit, but it evolved into a great way to raise funds for those in need," he added.

"REALTORS® do more than just sell real estate," commented 2009 Winnipeg REALTORS® president Deborah Goodfellow. "We help to build vibrant communities."

"Like Wes, we're directly involved in the communities we serve. We want as REALTORS® to build a great city into a better city."

"You can't be in the real estate business and not have people's needs touch you at some level," she added.

"It's always a great satisfaction to help people," said Schollenberg, who has been in real estate for 23 years. "There's always someone who is worse off than you that needs your help."

Schollenberg said his commitment to the community is time well spent, and being named by his peers as this year's Community Service Award winner is deeply gratifying.

