

Dietary staff in 11 facilities in health region to receive awards

Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region: Dietary staff working in 11 facilities in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, members of CUPE Local 3967, will be stepping out of the kitchen and into the limelight over the next two weeks, as they are honoured for their commitment to food excellence, public service and community spirit.

The Health Care Council of the Canadian Union of Public Employees is presenting Certificates of Recognition and Achievement to dietary staff in Moosomin, Broadview, Grenfell, Lumsden, Lestock, Imperial, Whitewood and one health facility in Regina, an affiliate of the health region.

The awards, presented in three categories – Food Excellence, the People's Choice and Supporting the Local Community – recognize the work of dietary staff and other health providers who prepare hot, nutritious meals from scratch, go the extra distance to improve the quality of life for hospital patients and long-term care residents, and buy locally to support the community.

"Everyone knows the importance of nutrition to health and well-being," says CUPE Health Care Council President Gordon Campbell. "But it's particularly true for hospital patients recovering from surgeries and elderly residents living in a long-term care facilities."

The "Food Excellence Certificate" recognizes the work of dietary staff who 'slave over a hot stove' to ensure that meal time is the best part of people's day in hospitals and long-term care facilities across the province, Campbell says.

The award is only presented to facilities that prepare food with fresh ingredients and restrict their use of pre-packaged food products.

A total of 30 certificates will be presented to dietary staff in five health regions.

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This year's recipients of the Food Excellence Award in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region are the dietary staff at:

Broadview Union Hospital
Broadview Centennial Lodge
Grenfell Pioneer Home
St. Joseph's Integrated Care Centre, Lestock
Lumsden and District Heritage Home
Moosomin Union Hospital
Eastern Sask Pioneer Nursing Home, Moosomin

The Support the Local Community Award will be presented to the dietary staff at:

The Whitewood Community Health Centre
Long Lake Valley Integrated Care Facility, Imperial
Eastern Sask Nursing Home, Moosomin

And the People's Choice Award will be presented to the dietary staff at a long-term care facility in Regina on October 12. The event organizers want to surprise the staff so the facility is not being named publicly at this time.

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The Certificates of Recognition and Achievement will be presented as follows:

- October 1: Moosomin Union Hospital at 2 p.m.
All three facilities will receive awards at this time
- October 1: Whitewood Community Health Centre at 10 a.m.
- October 2: Broadview Hospital at 3 p.m.
(Both facilities will receive awards at this time)
- October 2: Grenfell Pioneer Home at 1 p.m.
- October 10: St. Joseph's Integrated Care Centre, Lestock at 1:30 p.m.
- October 11: Long Lake Valley Integrated Care Facility, Imperial at 1:30 p.m.
- October 12: Lumsden and District Heritage Home at 3 p.m.
- October 12: The award-winning Regina facility at 1:30 p.m. - TBA

