

# Neighbors

## Molloy receives B'nai B'rith award

By Barb Glen  
of the Saskatoon Sun

Peter Zakreski, left, shakes  
the hand of Tom Molloy  
as Jim Scharfstein looks on  
— Sun Photo by Greg Pender



I've always been involved, all the way through high school and university...I guess it's just part of living."

Molloy's past involvements bear out the pattern of continued community work. He has served with the Spirit of Service Committee, the Roman Catholic Diocese Finance Committee, United World College — Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific (as trustee), and with the Saskatoon Club.

As well, Molloy is a former trustee with St. Paul's Hospital Board, former chair of the capital campaign to establish Ronald McDonald House in Saskatoon through Friends of Saskatchewan Children Inc., a former fundraising chair for Jeux Canada Games in 1988-89, founding board member of The Partnership, former director and chair of the Saskatoon Local Housing Authority and former governor of Hockey Canada.

On a strictly volunteer level, Molloy said he considers his work with Ronald McDonald House and with Wanuskewin to be the personal highlights. From 1984 to 1989, he organized and directed a fundraising campaign which amassed \$1.2 million to cover cost of building and ongoing expenses for Ronald McDonald House.

With Wanuskewin, his fundrais-  
ing activities were

of You Award, presented annually by the B'nai B'rith Lodge, reads like a who's who of movers and shakers in Saskatoon.

The newest addition to the list is a good fit; Tom Molloy is the 1993 recipient and was honored Nov. 17 at the Lodge banquet.

"I am very flattered by it, it's quite an honor to be recognized that way," said Molloy.

The award is presented annually to an individual in the community who has made significant contributions and has never been specifically recognized for the effort.

Molloy, 53, has most recently been in the news as one of the architects of Nunavut, the 350,000-square-kilometre territory in Canada primarily occupied by Inuit people. He is chief negotiator for the government of Canada in the Nunavut matter, and has been since 1982.

When the territory was officially established earlier this year, Molloy returned to his work with the MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman law firm, where he is a specialist in arbitration and litigation matters.

When he isn't doing that, Molloy wears other hats; a member of the execu-

utive committee for PRIDE Canada (Parent Resources Institute for Drug Education), a member of the Wanuskewin Heritage Park Board and chair of the Wanuskewin Corporate Campaign, a founding and continuing member of the Saskatoon StarPhoenix Carrier Alumni Association, director and chair of the Mee-wasin Foundation, director and vice-chair of the Saskatoon Foundation and director and chair of the Kidney Research Foundation of Saskatchewan.

The qualities which enable him to carry it all off?

"The inability to say no," said Molloy

with a laugh. On a more serious note, he said none of his achievements have been entirely on his own, but rather with the help of other volunteers.

Nor does Molloy seem to find his level of community involvement unusual.

"It's just that

## Discrimination matters high on priority list

The Saskatoon organization of B'nai B'rith enters the limelight annually in presenting the We're Proud of You Award, but its behind the scenes activities are much larger in scope.

Involvement in the protection of human rights is the key for B'nai B'rith, according to local long-time president James Scharfstein, who also plays a role in the national organization.

"The B'nai B'rith's League for Human Rights is probably the leading organization in Canada regarding discrimination matters," said Scharfstein, adding the League monitors all forms of discrimination against ethnic and religious groups, and intervenes in the protection of human rights where possible.

Although it is a Jewish men's organization, B'nai B'rith doesn't limit itself to combatting anti-semitism, Scharfstein said.

"It fights racism and bigotry, and promotes inter-community relations."

With one and a half million members world wide, in 43 different countries, B'nai B'rith does have a voice in such matters, Scharfstein noted. The Canadian League operates in co-operation with the U.S. Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

B'nai B'rith sponsors inter-faith dialogue, said Scharfstein, and works to promote democracy and world peace.

In Saskatoon there are about 60 members of the organization,

who focus on four main areas; education, community relations, legal/legislative and public information. Regarding education, Scharfstein said the group is willing to provide its expertise on topics related to racism, and can help make the considerably vast resources of B'nai B'rith available for educational purposes.

In terms of community relations, the group takes an interest in racial and ethnic issues, taking action where it deems necessary. Examples of the legal and legislative role lie in lobbying government in human rights matters and monitoring situations such as the recent Hughes/LaChance inquiry.

The local group supports its youth organization and is also recognized for its contributions to charity. This year the recipients of fund raising efforts generated through the Nov. 17 Silver Plate Dinner are Children's Health Foundation of Saskatoon, Pre-schools for Inner City Children and Saskatoon Association for Community Living.

### Previous recipients of the We're Proud of You award include:

- Howard Nixon (1992), Eric Antonini (1991), Fred Gathercole (1990), Peter Zakreski (1989), Cliff Wright (1988), Gerry Rose (1987), Cliff Worden (1986), Albert Ayers (1985), David Kaplan (1984), Kris Rao (1983), Tony Dagnone (1982), Boris Kischuk (1981), Ed Sebestyen (1980), Al Anderson (1979), Ted Hughes (1978), Al Tubby (1977), Howard Stensrud (1976), Syd Gelman (1975), George Porteous (1974), Sam Landa (1972), and Hugh Tait (1971).

again utilized in raising \$3.2 million, contributing to establishment of the heritage park.

Molloy was born and educated in Saskatoon, and has apparent loyalty to the city.

"Saskatoon has always been a good city to live in. I have a lot of friends and you can do just about anything you want here. It's a good place for family."

Another attribute is the number of willing volunteers, Molloy added. His own reasons for such extensive community involvement are simple.

"There's lots of satisfaction that can be gained from doing the work, and you also get to meet a lot of interesting and good people."

And Molloy said he doesn't intend to reduce his community efforts anytime in the near future. In fact, he recommends community work to others.

"I'd just encourage people to get involved in things and help make Saskatoon a better place to be and live."