



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Citizen Recognition Award Winners Announced**

Bruce Thurston and Mya Desmaris are the winners of the City of Yorkton's first Citizen Recognition Awards. The winners were announced at the regular meeting of Council Monday evening, with Bruce taking the honours in the Adult Category and Mya Desmaris in the Youth Category.

"These awards are a new and meaningful way to recognize outstanding individuals in our City," said Mayor Bob Maloney. "We are very pleased to recognize Bruce and Mya for their outstanding work in supporting and building our community," he said. The awards will be officially presented at an upcoming Council meeting when the award recipients are available to attend.

Bruce has a long history of involvement with many Yorkton community associations and events. Some of these include the Charity Road Race, Rhythm and Ribs Festival, Charity Golf Classics, the Farming for Health Project, Snowarama, the annual Pumpkin Walk, the Soup Haven and the Yorkton Business Improvement District (YBID).

Mya Desmaris is an honour roll student at the Yorkton Regional High School who is known for her many notable accomplishments. The annual Friday Night Lights football game was orchestrated by her efforts and she achieved bronze in Public Speaking and Robotics in a Skills Canada Competition. She also works as a lifeguard and volunteers as a Mentor for Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

In October 2017, Council approved the "Citizen Recognition Awards" Policy to recognize two recipients (Adult and Youth) who have made outstanding contributions for the betterment of the City. A committee comprised of three Council members and two community members was appointed in January of 2018 to adjudicate submissions for the 2018 year, and recommend the award recipients to Council. There were 15 nominations for the program, 11 in the Adult Category, four in the Youth Category. Committee members included Tom Seeley, Gerry Pepler, Mayor Bob Maloney, Councillor Quinn Haider and Councillor Mitch Hipsley.

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