

Two Bolton Scouts get Duke of Edinburgh's Awards

By Bill Rea

The Scouting movement in Bolton continues to make its mark in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program.

Palgrave resident Alexander Court and Harry Hautot of Bolton, both members of the 1st Bolton Scout Group, were presented with their Gold Awards of Achievement recently. They were among about 100 young people receiving the award from Gov. Gen. David Johnson. They were accompanied by Scout Leaders Karen Matson and Steve Vickers who counselled them during the program. Hautot's community services have included his volunteering as an assistant Beaver leader, church volunteer, youth network team member and a trail volunteer. Court has been a youth trainer, event coordinator, area and council youth commissioner, training course leader, etc. as part of his activities with the Scouts.

The program also required the two to take part in an adventurous journey, which was a five-day canoe trip Algonquin Park.

"Today is your day," Jennifer Reynolds, Ontario past-president of the Program told all the recipients at the ceremony. "Enjoy this special moment in your life."

Jim Kershaw, national president of the Program, observed that more than eight million young Canadians have taken part in the award program since it started here in 1963.

"We're very proud of the program in Canada," he remarked.

"You are individuals who can set goals and achieve them," he told the recipients, "and I can tell you, you are in very short supply."

"This is a gem to put on a resume," he added, commenting that he sees hundreds of resumes and knows that being able to cite involvement in the program sets those people apart from others.

"All of you here inspire hope," Johnson told them. "You're already having an impact on your community."

"We have a lot to learn from you," he added.



Alexander Court (above) and Harry Hautot recently received their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Awards of Achievement from Gov. Gen. David Johnson and Jim Kershaw, national president of the Program.

