



SASW Student Scholarship Award - 2007 -

**Pamela Vorstermans-Agar
Saskatoon, SK**

The SASW Student Scholarship is awarded to a social work student in recognition of her contribution to her community. The student's community service is beyond the immediate requirements of education or employment and could be activities related to the professional association, group, or volunteer work.

Pamela's volunteer experience began in the summer of 2005 when she and her husband worked as construction hands on a Habitat for Humanity building, recognizing that communities can work together to make changes for those disadvantaged. During this same summer, she volunteered at a summer camp with Family Services Saskatoon, accompanying youth on outings. That fall, she approached a teacher about helping in the classroom to explore the possibility of becoming a teacher. During this volunteer work at Dundonald Elementary, she found she was more interested in what was driving the behaviour of young people and her focus shifted to Social Work.

Pamela has been a Mentor with Big Brothers of Saskatoon for two years, committing to maintaining a long-term relationship with a student she has connected with, recognizing the power of encouragement and support. And for most of 2006, she volunteered at the Saskatoon Sexual Assault Centre supporting victims of crime, again identifying the role of the community in facilitating change.

The Scholarship Task Team was also impressed with Pamela's contributions to her student community. She is treasurer of Saskatoon's Social Work student society and organized a Social Work Peer Support Group. On top of this, she volunteers regularly as a peer supporter at the University of Saskatchewan Student's Union Support Centre in both the Women's and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally Centres. She also manages to find time to participate in SWITCH, a student-run clinic, on a weekly basis, as part of a clinical team or as shift supervisor as well as other functions. All this as a full-time Social Work student!

The depth of Pamela's volunteer experience and her commitment to community and vulnerable people through her work is phenomenal.