

The group is recruiting volunteer candidates with experience in fundraising, heritage advocacy, and non-profit governance. "Previous board experience is beneficial, but not required," said Matthew Lovegrove, the museum curator and manager.

Interested parties should email contact information to scma_manager@dccnet.com so it can be forwarded to the museum's nominating committee. The annual general meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 29. Details will appear online at sunshinecoastmuseum.com.

The stuff of bravery

On March 18, members of the Sunshine Coast



MICHAEL GURNEY PHOTO

Members of the Gibsons fire department gather to receive a custom-designed quilt from the Sunshine Coast Quilters Guild.

Quilters' Guild visited the Gibsons and District Volunteer Fire Department to present a project that was a year in the making.

Twelve months ago, assistant chief Chris Facchin was unsure how

to appropriately honour the retired uniforms of former department members. Some 40 name patches were stacked on a hallway shelf.

Then Facchin attended the Quilters' Guild

biennial quilt show at the Gibsons & Area Community Centre. He hatched an idea: could local quilters transform the uniform patches into a commemorative quilt for display at the fire hall on

North Road?

The answer: an emphatic yes. The two-storey-high quilt was created collaboratively by Noriko Kawaguchi, Elizabeth Byrne, Lynda White, Louise Keats, Karen Biddlecombe, Marian Williamson, Jude Grebeldinger, Carol Dunsford, Janey Marshall and Nancy McMurdo. All materials were donated by members of the guild with no cost to the firefighters.

"We wanted to honour their devotion and contribution to our community," said Kawaguchi. Concentrated efforts on the quilt got underway in November.

"The guild donates hundreds of quilts to various causes and organizations along the entire Sunshine Coast," added Kawaguchi. "This request by the fire department was a special honour for us, though."

In addition to the patches, the quilt features

a prominent image of the department's fire truck, and words describing the character traits of firefighters embroidered into the border.

Chief Rob Michael and all uniformed members of the department gathered last week to unwrap and accept the quilt. It will be hung in the stairwell at the firehall entrance.

"We came up with a beautiful plan," observed Facchin.

Among other beneficiaries, the Quilters' Guild presents a quilt to every baby born on the Sunshine Coast. When Wednesday's formal presentation concluded, firefighter Mackenzie Pinney proudly showed off photos of his newborn child swaddled in a quilt created by the Guild.

To share details of upcoming events and notable cultural developments on the Sunshine Coast, email arts@coastreporter.net.