

December 2024

## ***Remembering FCSS Friend Vicki (Van Vliet) Vaitkunas***

Devoted FCSS friend Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas is known for her larger-than-life personality and decade of service to the FCSSAA Board of Directors, which makes it incredibly difficult to announce her passing earlier this month.

Vicki had a kindness that permeated all her actions – she always knew how to make you feel special, even in a room full of people. She had a brightness in her energetic presence and treated everyone she encountered with the utmost dignity and respect.

We are so incredibly grateful to have known Vicki and to have witnessed her inspiring commitment, passion and conviction.

Through Vicki's role on the FCSS Committee of the City of Edmonton's Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) she began visiting FCSS-funded organizations and quickly became a strong champion of the FCSS program. She saw the difference the funding makes for the community and the participants of the programs.

A strong advocate for preventive social services, she worked tirelessly to advocate to maintain provincial FCSS funding.

Vicki's service included serving on the FCSSAA Board of Directors from 2013 – 2023 and held the role of President from 2017-2019. With her clever, fun-loving spirit, she saw opportunity everywhere, including new ways to generate funds to support FCSS programs. Ever the dynamic leader, Vicki was the one who spearheaded our very own silent auction at the FCSSAA Annual Conference.

She was beloved and highly esteemed by her peers and community, which is evident by the many awards and accolades bestowed upon her, including the 2019 FCSSAA Premier's Award and the prestigious Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal in 2022 awarded not only for her many years of dedicated service to FCSS, but also for her commitment to mentoring young leaders rising around her.

***We will all remember your laughter and the joy it brought, Vicki.  
You are already dearly missed.***



<https://edmontonjournal.remembering.ca/obituary/victoria-vicki-van-vliet-vaitkunas-1092443051>