



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2023 INSPIRING POSSIBILITIES AWARDS

Community Living Ontario is currently accepting nominations for our *2023 Inspiring Possibilities Awards*. These awards are an opportunity to celebrate the people and organizations making a positive impact on the lives of those with intellectual disabilities and their families in Ontario.

We will be presenting winners with their awards at our [2023 Inspiring Possibilities AGM and Conference](#), taking place from September 27–29 in Ottawa. Winners are encouraged to attend our conference (subsidies may be available if required) and accept their award in person, however one does not need to attend the conference to win.

Please read the information below which will help you learn about each award, who can be nominated, and how you can nominate a person or team. Once you're clear on how the nomination process works, you may wish to [fill out and submit the nomination form](#).

We are accepting nominations until **Thursday, August 10, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. EDT**.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa at ltabachnick@communitylivingontario.ca.

The Four Awards:

Award #1: The Changemaker Award

This award celebrates an individual who has made an impact on the people of Ontario and is seen as a torchbearer, significantly impacting the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The recipient of this award has shown exceptional leadership, creativity, and determination in advancing the rights of people with intellectual disabilities, promoting their inclusion in society, and inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

Award #2: The Inclusive Media Award

This award honours an individual or organization who has made an impact on the people of Ontario by creatively and passionately utilized social media, television, radio, film, or print media to raise awareness, promote inclusion, and positively impact the lives of individuals with

intellectual disabilities. This award recognizes a person or group that has leveraged the power of media to challenge stereotypes, break down barriers, and create opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to have their voices heard.

Award #3: The Innovation in Accessibility Award

This award celebrates an individual or organization that has made an impact on the people of Ontario by developing innovative solutions to make the world more accessible and/or inclusive for people with intellectual disabilities, such as assistive technologies, communication tools, and accessible design.

Award #4: The Jason Rae Award

This award is in memory of Jason Rae who passed away on Sept. 15, 2016. Jason was a contributing member of the Trent Hills community. Jason was actively involved with Advocates for Community Education (ACE) and Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Board of Directors and sat on various leadership boards and committees focusing on the common goal of inclusion including being a member of the Board of Directors for Community Living Ontario.

“Pride,” “Integrity”, “Disciplined”, and “Gifted,” as well as “Nothing left undone” are just a few of the terms that defined Jason. He was an exemplary, civic-minded role model to his community and to those to whom he was close. Jason was a service-minded role model who did not let his disability get in the way of his passion for life. *This award comes with a \$1,000 prize.*

Eligibility Criteria:

The following criteria apply to all awards:

1. A person cannot nominate themselves, i.e., no self-nominations.
2. All nominees must agree to have their work reviewed by the award selection committee and be available to participate in any associated publicity activities, such as interviews or media coverage.
3. The term “work” applies to the period from January 2022 to July 2023.
4. Nominees can live and/or work outside of Canada but their work must impact people with intellectual disabilities and/or their families in Ontario, Canada.
5. Nominees must meet additional requirements specific to the award for which they are being nominated.

Changemaker Award Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, teams, and organizations are eligible to apply.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact during the period of January 2022 to July 2023 by raising awareness, promoting action, and advocating for a more inclusive and barrier-free world and have significantly contributed to advancing the rights and opportunities of individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- Nominee’s work should align with the values and mission of CLO.

Inclusive Media Award Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, teams, and organizations are eligible to apply.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact from January 2022 to July 2023 by raising awareness, promoting action, and advocating for a more inclusive and barrier-free world.
- The media work must have been published, aired, or released between January 2022 and July 2023.
- The work should have significantly impacted promoting understanding, awareness, and inclusion of individuals with intellectual disabilities.
- The work should be of high quality, including using accurate and respectful language, imagery, and representation of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Innovation in Accessibility Award Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, teams, and organizations are eligible to apply.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact during the period of January 2022 to July 2023 by raising awareness, promoting action, and advocating for a more inclusive and barrier-free world.
- The nominee must have developed or contributed significantly to developing an innovative solution that has improved accessibility for people with intellectual disabilities.
- The innovation could be a product, service, technology, or design that has been implemented and demonstrated success in improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.
- The nominee should be able to provide evidence of the impact of the innovation, such as user feedback, testimonials, or data that demonstrate the solution's effectiveness.

Jason Rae Award Eligibility Criteria

The nominee must be someone who:

- Is a self-advocate (person who identifies as having an intellectual disability)
- Is involved in the community and giving back
- Is not afraid to speak up and help others find their voice
- Uses leadership skills, both with Community Living and in the community
- Is active in standing up for people's rights
- Believes in people's abilities and the value of everyone being a part of the community

How To Nominate:

Nominate a person, team, or organization for one of these awards by [filling out and submitting the nomination form](#) before **August 10, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. EDT**. If you need accommodations or assistance with filling out this form, please contact Lisa at ltabachnick@communitylivingontario.ca.

Please only nominate eligible candidates. Nominations that do not meet our eligibility requirements will not be considered.