



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2024 INSPIRING POSSIBILITIES AWARDS

We are thrilled to share that Community Living Ontario is currently accepting nominations for its *2024 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 encourage chosen recipients to accept their award in-person at our [2024 Inspiring Possibilities AGM and Conference](#), taking place **September 17–19, 2024** at the [Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel & Suites in Richmond Hill](#). However, you do not need to attend in order to be eligible to receive an award.

The following important information covers:

- All four awards
- Who can be nominated
- How to nominate a person, organization, or team
- The deadline for nominations
- 2023 award recipients

If you have any questions about the awards or nominations process, please contact Tenzin Khando at tkhando@communitylivingontario.ca.

The 2024 Inspiring Possibilities 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 utilizing 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: Trailblazer in Accessibility Award

This award celebrates an individual or organization that has made an impact on the people of Ontario by developing novel solutions to enhance accessibility and inclusiveness for people with intellectual disabilities. It recognizes contributions such as the creation of assistive technologies, communication tools, and design that make environments and experiences more accessible.

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 a variety of causes and organizations, including: The Trent Hills community, Advocates for Community Education (ACE), Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Board of Directors, and Community Living Ontario's Board. Jason also sat on a variety of other leadership boards and committees which are focused on the common goal of inclusion.

"Pride," "Integrity", "Disciplined", and "Gifted," as well as "Nothing left undone" are just a few of the terms that defined Jason. Jason 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. *Please note that 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 2023 to July 2024.
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.
6. Please note that nominations are being accepted until Friday, July 12, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EDT.

Changemaker Award Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, teams, and organizations are eligible to apply/be nominated.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact during the period of January 2023 to July 2024 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/be nominated.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact from January 2023 to July 2024 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 2023 and July 2024.
- 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.

Trailblazer in Accessibility Award Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals, teams, and organizations are eligible to apply/be nominated.
- Nominees must demonstrate a clear impact during the period of January 2023 to July 2024 by raising awareness, promoting action, and advocating for a more inclusive and barrier-free world.
- The nominee must have developed or contributed significantly to a novel solution that has improved accessibility for people with intellectual disabilities.
- The solution 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 present evidence demonstrating the impact of their solution, including user feedback, testimonials, or data that highlights the effectiveness of their approach.

Jason Rae Award Eligibility Criteria

The nominee must be someone who:

- Is a person who identifies as having an intellectual disability
- Is involved in and contributing to their community
- Uses leadership skills, both with Community Living and in the community
- Is active in standing up for people's rights and helping others find their voice
- Believes in people and the value of everyone being a part of the community

View 2023's Inspiring Possibilities Award Recipients:

Discover the 2023 Inspiring Possibilities Award recipients by visiting [this page](#).

How To Nominate:

Nominate a person, team, or organization for one of these awards [The Jason Rae Award is for a person only not a group] by filling out and submitting the [nomination form](#) before **Friday, July 12, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EDT**. If you require accommodation or assistance with filling out this form, please contact Tenzin Khando at tkhando@communitylivingontario.ca.

Thank you for your interest.

Please only nominate eligible candidates. Unfortunately, nominations that do not meet the stated eligibility requirements cannot be considered.

All nominators will be informed of the results once nominations have been reviewed and final recipients have been selected.