



This category recognizes an individual or a group of individuals who advocate for positive change, inspire others and make significant contributions to improving the overall quality of life for people with disabilities. Nominations should be for initiatives and achievements undertaken in the past two calendar years (2022 and 2023).

Posthumous nominations will be accepted for individuals who have passed within the last two years. For a posthumous nomination, the nominee's executor must sign the consent form provided in this package and indicate they are providing consent on behalf of the estate.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for this category, nominees must fit at least one of the following criteria:

- a resident of Vaughan
- a community group based in York Region and serving residents of Vaughan

**Nominees are only eligible to be nominated for one category.**

Ineligible nominations include:

- elected members of federal, provincial or municipal governments
- current City of Vaughan committee, board or task force members
- current City of Vaughan employees
- current Vaughan Public Libraries employees
- current members of the City of Vaughan's Accessibility Advisory Committee
- nominees with a [Conflict of Interest](#) (see below)

### Submission package checklist:

- Signed consent and conflict of interest form
- A detailed description of the nominee's work and initiatives in the established category
- Three signed testimonials that speak to the contributions and impact of the individual/group to accessibility in Vaughan

## Evaluation

The evaluation committee will consider the entirety of the application and the substance of the information contained within. To support the nomination, please consider providing applicable information as follows:

- profile or visibility of the nominee within the community as a role model or a leader in accessibility and inclusion
- evidence of collaboration and partnership results in measurable improvement for people with disabilities
- innovation to service with measurable improvement related to access and inclusion for people living with a disability
- description of a product invented with descriptions of intended impact for people living with disabilities
- evidence to support the impact of public education and awareness campaigns or activities (e.g. metrics from social media, number of participants in workshops or information sessions, number of workshops or information sessions provided)
- promote full inclusion and citizenship through increased labour market participation

## Testimonials

Nominations require three signed testimonials (electronic signature or scanned copy of the signed letter) of support that speak to the individual's or group's contribution and their impact on accessibility within Vaughan. Each testimonial will be weighted separately. Testimonials must be from individuals who are not the nominator. The testimonial writers should:

- know the nominee.
- be able to explain the nominee's work and its impacts.
- support the nomination.

Testimonials should demonstrate excellence as it relates to accessibility in one or more of the following categories:

- leadership
- innovation to service for people living with disabilities
- invention of a product for people with disabilities
- collaboration and partnership
- public education and awareness campaigns or activities
- furthering the development of accessibility
- demonstrated commitment to recruiting, hiring and training people with disabilities
- impact on the community and individuals with disabilities

## Additional information

If you believe any additional information highlights the nominee's contribution, there is a section in the application to upload this material. This may include, but is not limited to, news articles, committee work, business or non-profit organization profiles.

# Individual/Group Category

## Consent and Conflict of Interest Declaration

To complete the nomination process and to forward your nomination for consideration, your consent is required for the following purposes:

1. The collection of your personal information from a nominator or an individual chosen by the party making the nomination (hereinafter referred to as "nominator"). Your nominator will provide testimonials that include information about you, including but not limited to, your story, accomplishments, professional achievements, exemplary standards, and/or any other information needed to meet the merit criteria.
2. Have your name, reason for nomination and/or information collected shared publicly on the City of Vaughan's webpage and promote the awards via social media should you receive the Award.

Your participation in this nomination process is voluntary. Should you refuse to provide your personal information or your consent, you will not be considered for the Award.

If you do not wish to provide your consent or be considered for the Award, please notify your nominator immediately so your name can be removed from consideration.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, confirm that I have read and understand the information contained in this document and provide my consent for the collection and use of my personal information in support of my nomination and subsequent consideration for the Accessibility Champion Award. I further acknowledge and understand in the event that I am chosen as a recipient of the Award, I agree to have my name, reason for nomination and/or information collected made public.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to declare any conflicts of interests as it pertains to my nomination and subsequent consideration for the Accessibility Champion Award in accordance with [\*Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, RSO 1990, c M.50\*](#).

I agree to accept this nomination.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** For group nominations, a signed Consent and Conflict of Interest Declaration form must be submitted for each participating group member.