

ACCESSIBILITY CHAMPION AWARDS

2022



CATEGORIES

- Individual/ Group
- Small Business
- Medium Business
- Large Business
- Youth Leadership



CATEGORY: INDIVIDUAL/GROUP

This category recognizes an individual or a group of individuals who advocate for positive change, inspires others and makes significant contributions to improving the overall quality of life for people with disabilities.

Eligibility

The nominee must be:

- a resident of the City of Vaughan
- Individuals, groups or posthumous nomination

Ineligible Nominations

- Self nominations
- elected federal, provincial or municipal politician currently in office
- City of Vaughan's Committee, Board or Task Force members
- The City of Vaughan employee(s)
- Vaughan Public Library
- A current member of the VAAC
- Nominee with a COI as defined by the Municipal Act

EVALUATION

- 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 living with disabilities.
- Innovation to service with measurable improvement related to access and inclusion for people living with a disability. OR
- Description of product invented with descriptions of intended impact for people living with disabilities.



CATEGORY: SMALL/ MEDIUM/ LARGE BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION (including non-profit and for-profit)

Nominations should be for initiatives and achievements undertaken in the past two calendar years.

The business or organization can either

- provide goods or services to people with disabilities in the City of Vaughan and go above and beyond to enrich the lives of people with disabilities.
- shows leadership in integrating and providing barrier-free working conditions for people with disabilities that goes beyond the compliance of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.
- has made measurable progress in the recruitment, hiring, retention and advancement to leadership positions of individuals with disabilities.

CATEGORY: SMALL/ MEDIUM/ LARGE BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION (including non-profit and for-profit)



Eligibility

The business or organizations the nominee must be:

- Located in York Region
- Small businesses are businesses with 1 to 99 employees;
- Medium-sized businesses are businesses with 100 to 499 employees;
- Large businesses are businesses with 500 employees or more.

Ineligible Nominations

- Self nominations
- elected federal, provincial or municipal politician currently in office
- City of Vaughan's Committee, Board or Task Force members
- The City of Vaughan employee(s)
- Vaughan Public Library
- A current member of the VAAC
- Nominee with a COI as defined by the Municipal Act

EVALUATION

- Evidence of work done to increase labour market participation.
- Evidence that the local community has benefited from the endeavour of the nominee. E.g., Advocating inclusion in other areas of the community beyond the labour market.
- Demonstrated excellence in minimizing barriers to employment



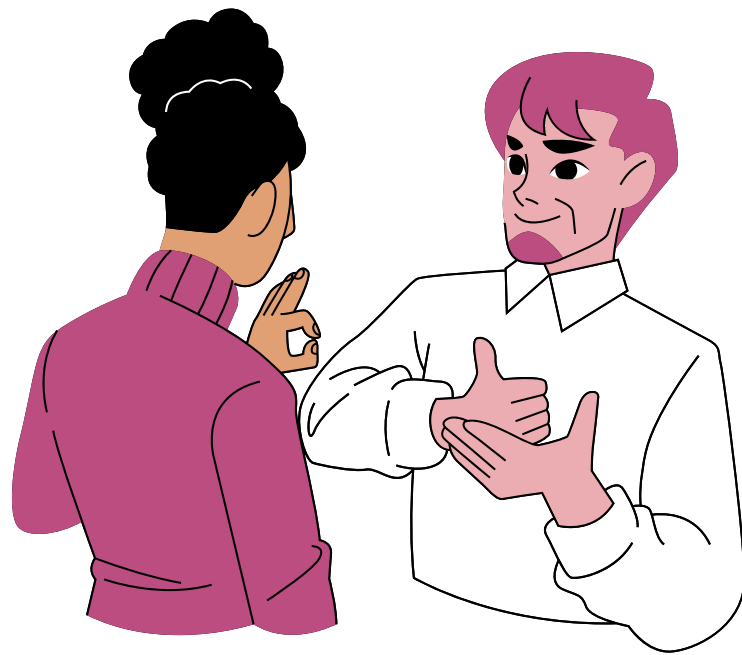
CATEGORY: YOUTH LEADERSHIP

This category recognizes a young person, between 14 and 24 years old, who shows leadership and commitment to improvising accessibility for people with disabilities.

Eligibility

The nominee must be:

- a resident of the City of Vaughan
- Individuals or posthumous nomination



Ineligible Nominations

- Self nominations
- elected federal, provincial or municipal politician currently in office
- City of Vaughan's Committee, Board or Task Force members
- The City of Vaughan employee(s)
- Vaughan Public Library
- A current member of the VAAC
- Nominee with a COI as defined by the Municipal Act

EVALUATION

- 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 living with disabilities. OR
- Innovation to service with measurable improvement related to access and inclusion for people living with a disability. OR
- Description of 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 (i.e. metrics from social media, number of participants in workshops or information sessions, number of workshops or information sessions provided, etc.) OR
- Promote full inclusion and citizenship through increased labour market participation

REQUIRED INFORMATION

- The nominee's first name, last name, email address and phone number.
- The nominator's first name, last name, email address and phone number.
- Consent to be nominated
- A detailed description of the nominee's work and initiatives in one of the four categories.
- 2-5 Testimonials



TESTIMONIALS

The parties providing testimonials will be asked to provide clear examples of contributions using some or all of the following attributes:

- Leadership
- Innovation to service for people living with accessibility
- 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 of people with disabilities.
- Impact on community and individuals with disabilities

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

May include additional materials such as

- news articles
- Community, committee, business or not-for-profit organization profiles



NOMINATION FORM

- The Nomination Form has been expanded to collect details to aid nominators in supporting the nomination and the AAC in the selection process.
- In order to complete the nomination package, the party putting forward the nomination will be required to provide 2 -5 testimonials which support notable achievements including professional and volunteer activities and their significance or initiatives and activities as described under each category.



Work Back Schedule

	Q2 2022			Q3 2022			Q4 2022		
TASKS	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
VAAC to review and approve modification to categories, edibility criteria and changes to the nomination form.									
Memo on Vaughan Accessibility Champion Awards including nomination period and event.									
Comms Dept. will issue first PSA of “nominations are opening Oct. 1 for Accessibility Champion Awards” (with corresponding organic social media, eNewsletter and Council Package)									
eBlast to all community groups about nominations opening (ONAP, etc.)									
Paid social media \$250 - \$1,000									
PSA #2 – 2 weeks left to get your nominations in. Nominations close Oct. 30 (with corresponding organic social media, eNewsletter and Council Package)									
Provide RC Jackson and Mayor with remarks.									
Winners of Accessibility Champions Awards are selected and notified.									
PSA #3 – Accessibility Champion Awards event is coming up on Dec.									
Council Communications Package (morning of event)									
Event									
Post-event News Release (with corresponding organic social media, eNewsletter and Council Package)									



Communications

A fulsome communications plan will be developed to support the Vaughan Accessibility Champion Awards, exploring all available communication channel options. Communications support will include but is not limited to:

- Memo to Mayor and Members of Council (**Zincia and team**)
- Public service announcements and news release
- Organic social media
- Vaughan News eNewsletters
- Council Communications Packages
- Paid social media (**nomination period**)
- eBlast to all community groups about nominations opening (ONAP, etc.) (**Zincia and team**)
- City of Vaughan digital signs
- Mobile signs
- City Hall and community centre TVs



Questions?

