



Canadian
Physiotherapy
Association

Association
canadienne de
physiothérapie

CPA MARYANN JEFFERIES LEADERSHIP AWARD

**The CPA awards program runs on a biennial basis, aligning with CPA Congress (even years). Only the Helen Saarinen Rahikka Student Leadership Award will be open for nominations during non-Congress (odd) years.*

Philosophy

Physiotherapist Assistants and Physical Rehabilitation Therapists (TRP) play a critical role in physiotherapy service delivery and are important contributors to the profession. An individual who promotes the recognition of the role of Assistants and TRP through leadership, education, or volunteerism is a highly valued contributor to the profession. Leadership should be fostered and supported by the Association within all sectors of membership by recognizing unique and/or lasting contributions.

History

The Maryann Jefferies Leadership Award was initiated in 2006, two years following the establishment of the National Physiotherapist Assistant Assembly (NPAA). The award was first presented in 2007. The Award was designed to recognize the unique contributions made by members of CPA's NPAA to Assembly leadership, volunteerism, and raising awareness of the role of Assistants within the physiotherapy profession.

Background

The award is named in honour of Maryann Jefferies, a physiotherapist who was instrumental during the 1990s and 2000s in raising the profile of the role of PTAs, and ensuring high standards for academic and practical preparation of graduates. Maryann was involved with the development of the Ontario Ministry of Education's Physiotherapist Assistant Program Standards as well as the Canadian Physiotherapy Association's Support Worker Competency Profile. She was involved in the expansion of CPA's Affiliate Category to include Physiotherapist Assistants and Aides, which evolved in 2004 to the launch of the National Support Worker Assembly, now the National Physiotherapist Assistant Assembly. Maryann retired from Humber College in June 2006, the same year that the Assembly introduced its leadership award.

Purpose



The purpose of the Maryann Jefferies Leadership Award reflects the philosophy and recognizes CPA Assistant and TRP members who have enhanced the role of physiotherapy support personnel within the profession through a unique or long-term contribution.

Criteria for Selection

The award recipient's peers must recognize the individual as having enhanced the role of Assistants and TRP's within the profession and the Association in a unique manner and through outstanding service. This significant contribution must be unique in nature, or must be demonstrated over at least five years of NPAA membership and service to the profession and to the Association at a local and/or national level. The five year membership requirement may be waived if the nominee is a student.

Example of activities that will be considered include, but are not limited to:

- Involvement in raising the profile of the National Physiotherapist Assistant Assembly amongst Assistants and TRP's;
- Involvement in raising the profile of the role of Assistants within the physiotherapy profession nationally and/or provincially;
- Leadership which serves to motivate others to become involved in Assembly activities;
- Involvement and leadership in professional or public awareness activities that raise the profile of the profession;
- Mentoring colleagues;
- Collaborating with other health professionals to enhance patient care.

Eligibility

The individual may be a Physiotherapist Assistant, TRP or a student enrolled in a physiotherapist assistant / rehabilitation assistant College program, with current NPAA membership. Current members of the NPAA Administrative Council are not eligible for nomination.

Selection of Candidate

The CPA Awards Committee, in consultation with the President of the NPAA or delegate, will select the recipient.

Presentation

The award will be presented biennially at Congress.



Form of Award

- Recognition at Congress
- A framed certificate signed by the CPA President and CPA Awards Committee Chair
- \$200 towards Congress registration

Nomination Procedure

Nominations must be made by either a CPA member or CPA Component (CPA Branch, CPA Division, or CPA Assembly). All nominations are confidential between the nominator(s) and the CPA Awards Committee.

The nomination must include:

1. At least two but not more than four letters of recommendation, none of which shall exceed four pages. At least one letter of recommendation will be from a physiotherapist and one from a member of the NPAA. The letters must outline the uniqueness of the individual and how she/he meets the criteria for the award.
2. One of the nominators must be identified as the primary nominator.
3. Curriculum Vitae of the candidate.

Nomination Process

The call for nominations typically launches at the end of the year (December), through a CPA member e-blast. Nominations must be submitted online, typically by the end of February the following year. Award winners and primary nominators will be notified in April.