



## **CPA MENTORSHIP 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**

A physiotherapy professional can provide inspirational mentorship in a variety of ways at any stage of his or her career. Physiotherapists who demonstrate professionalism and volunteerism are a source of inspiration to their colleagues and peers as are leaders of the profession. Physiotherapists who mentor colleagues benefit both the individual and the profession.

### **History**

The Mentorship Award was initiated in 2003 as an outcome of work conducted by the Canadian Physiotherapy Association's Leadership Task Force, a group formed to explore various ways in which CPA could promote and support leadership and volunteerism within the profession and the Association. The Task Force identified a gap in awards that recognized early or mid-career physiotherapists. They thus recommended the creation of an award that recognized colleagues at any time during their career who provide inspiration to their colleagues by acting as role models for professionalism and volunteerism. The Award was presented for the first time in 2005.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Mentorship Award is to recognize physiotherapists who, through their inspiration and support, provide exceptional mentorship of other physiotherapy professionals and act as role models for professionalism and volunteerism.

### **Background**

Mentoring is a special relationship that develops between two people in which the mentor plays an active role in the development of another individual by demonstrating a personal interest in that individual and his or her career. The mentor may assume many roles including that of teacher, sponsor, advisor, role model, coach and confidant. A mentor provides counsel, vision, support and a belief in others' capabilities. The mentor demonstrates excellent interpersonal skills which facilitate the mentoring relationship.



*\*Note: There is also the Clinical Education Award that nominators may consider.*

### Criteria for Selection

The candidate's peers must recognize the individual as having provided mentorship for several physiotherapists while acting as a role model and inspiration for others. A preference will be given to individuals who are involved in leadership and/or volunteer activities that encourage the participation of others in professional activities. The nominee must have at least five years of CPA membership.

Activities that will be considered include:

- Mentoring at least two colleagues in the areas of clinical practice, education, research, advocacy, or professional activities, thereby making a significant contribution to the productive development of the professional life of those colleagues.
- Acting as an exceptional role model for others through involvement in professional / voluntary activities that contribute to the profession and the Association.

### Eligibility

The individual must be a physiotherapist with current CPA membership.

### Selection of Candidate(s)

The CPA Award Committee will select the recipient(s). This award has up to 5 recipients.

### 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.



Canadian  
Physiotherapy  
Association

Association  
canadienne de  
physiothérapie

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 two letters of recommendation will be from physiotherapists who have been mentored by the individual being nominated. For the Candidate to be successful in the nomination process, the letters must outline the uniqueness of the individual, how she/he meets the criteria for the award, and must provide supporting evidence for all of the leadership qualities of the candidate.
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.