Early Childhood Development ASSOCIATION of PEI

The Cathy McCormack Memorial Award: Championing Every Child

How to Apply:

Fill out the ECDA's Cathy McCormack Memorial Award: Championing Every Child Nomination form and ensure you have a complete nomination packet to send. The following is an example of a complete & successful nomination package outline. This list is a suggested outline of all nomination packages; however, it should be modified to accommodate the needs of each individual nomination package, depending on applicable content.

- **Completed Nomination Form:** Signed by two nominators
- **Cover page:** Include name of award nominee, name of applicable award, and present year.
- **Cover letter:** Letter from the nominator outlining personal experience with the nominee and why they have chosen to nominate them.
- **Nominee biography:** A brief description of the nominee's background in the Early Learning and Child Care sector and other applicable personal experiences.
- **Nomination text:** Describe in full detail the reasons the nominee should be considered for this award. This text should follow the qualification criteria outlined on the applicable Call for Nominations form. Use strong evidence and concrete examples of the nominee's actions that have allowed them to meet the requirements of the award criteria. Include examples of activities, success stories, personal accomplishments, any instance of the nominee going above and beyond the duties of employment. Successful nomination packages will cover each of the relevant qualification criteria in detail with concrete examples
- **Supporting letters:** Letters from coworkers, clients (families past & present), and/or children pertaining to the nomination criteria. Letters must be signed by the author and include contact information (maximum of 5 letters)
- **Photographs and/or supporting documentation:** Children's art and other projects lead by the nominee, photographs of activities and events the nominee has participated in, Early Childhood content created by the nominee. This section should provide visual evidence to support the nomination text
- **Certificate:** Copy of the nominee's certification.

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Award Description:

The Early Childhood Development Association of PEI (ECDA) will present the T*he Cathy McCormack Championing Every Child Award* to one certified Early Childhood Professional working in a licensed Early Learning and Child Care facility. Their unwavering commitment to fostering an environment where every child feels valued and included sets them apart as a true role model in the field. By embracing diversity and adapting their teaching methods to meet the unique needs of each child, they create a nurturing space where young learners can thrive.

This award celebrates their innovative approaches, compassionate understanding, and the positive impact they have on the lives of children, families, colleagues, and the broader community. Their dedication is evident in the way they cultivate genuine connections with each child, ensuring that everyone has a voice and feels heard. The award packet should demonstrate how they champion inclusive play that encourage collaboration and empathy among peers. This recognition not only applauds their achievements but also highlights the importance of inclusion as a cornerstone of early Childhood Education, setting a foundation for lifelong learning and understanding. The nomination package should clearly illustrate how the nominee has excelled in the qualification criteria outlined below. Evidence must clearly indicate how this nominee has exceeded their employment responsibilities.

Nomination Criteria:

- The nominee has provided quality programs and demonstrates exemplary inclusive practices with young children.
- The nominee has made a significant contribution to quality inclusive early learning and child care at their facility.
- The nominee must provide an environment that supports all children and families in developing to their fullest potential
- The Nominee must be certified by the Early Learning and Child Care Board of PEI as an Early Childhood Intern, Early Childhood Associate or Early Childhood Educator and currently employed within an Early Learning and Child Care facility licensed by the Early Learning and Child Care Board of PEI
- Nominations must be seconded by a current colleague of the nominee or a parent/guardian of a child currently registered in the program lead by the nominee.
- Nominations must be received by 4:00PM on January 8th to be considered.
- Nominators must send in a complete application as one file.

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Qualification Criteria:

- The nominee has demonstrated their ability and commitment to make a positive and significant contribution to inclusive Early Childhood Education
- The nominee has demonstrated the values of inclusive education, and ensuring every child has a home in their classroom.
- The nominee has demonstrated outstanding inclusive leadership on behalf of children & families and/or the early childhood sector within their community.

Award Recipient will:

- Be presented with a beautiful keepsake award
- Receive a complementary registration to the 2027 ECDA Spring Conference
- Will be profiled in an upcoming issue of the ECDA's monthly Frontline Newsletter
- May be profiled and celebrated on ECDA's social media platforms

Selection Process:

Award recipients are chosen by the ECDA's 2027 Award Selection Committee, composed of representation from ECDA Board Members.

The successful award recipient will be honoured during the ECDA's ECE Week and Awards Celebration, taking place Saturday, February 6th from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM.

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Nomination Form:

Nominee Information:

Name of Person Nominated:_____

ECDA Membership Number:_____ Email:_____

Address:_____

Phone Number:_____ Place of Employment:_____

Certification:_____ Number of Years Working in ELCC:_____

Nominator One Information:

Name:_____ ECDA Membership Number:_____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

Address:_____

Phone Number:_____ Email:_____

Signature:_____

Nominator Two Information:

Name:_____ ECDA Membership Number:_____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

Address:_____

Phone Number:_____Email:_____

Signature:_____