

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

From: Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

Report Number: CO-23-22

Date of Report: April 19, 2023

Date of Meeting: April 24, 2023

Subject: Selection of the 2023 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient

Ward: All Wards

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the nomination for the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award Program to the Community and Operations Services Committee for their selection of the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion for 2023 and to realign the nomination and selection date to once every four years, to coincide with the fourth year of the council term.

There was one (1) nomination that met the eligibility criteria.

Attachment 1 is the procedures and criteria for recognition of the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award.

Confidential Attachment 2 contains the nomination for consideration for 2023 E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award.

Attachment 3 is the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient from 2018.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Community and Operations Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That the Community and Operations Services Committee selects the 2023 E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient from the nomination presented in this Report.
2. That the selected recipient be presented the 2023 E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award at a future Council meeting in 2023.

3. That the date of the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award returns to the council approved date ([CS-19-81](#)) of once every four years (4th year of the council term only).

3.0 Executive Summary

On February 22, 2016 Oshawa City Council approved the “Proposed Program for Honouring the Windfields Farms Legacy” ([DS-16-23](#)). The Program for Honouring the Windfields Farms Legacy contains initiatives and activities that aim to commemorate and honour the history of the Windfields Farms.

The Program for Honouring the Windfields Farms Legacy contains over thirty initiatives which are categorized into four sections including Preservation, Education, Events and Commemoration. Each category is further sub-divided according to which organization (City, UOIT, or other) may take a leadership role for the action item.

This report is specific to the City-led action to “Create an E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award for someone who exemplifies innovation and has overcome adversity”.

The procedures and criteria for determining the E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient are attached to this report as Attachment 1. The nominations for consideration are attached to this report as Confidential Attachment 2.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

Not applicable.

5.0 Analysis

5.1 Eligibility and Criteria

The E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award celebrates someone who exemplifies innovation and has overcome adversity that has met the following criteria:

- Recipient lives or works in Oshawa OR collaborates with an Oshawa-based organization.
- City of Oshawa employees are not eligible for the award, but may nominate individuals.
- The recipient must exemplify innovation. This could include:
 - Developing and implementing new ideas into tangible initiatives, programs or projects in the community;
 - Leading transformational change that has impacted the community;
 - Innovation may focus on technological products, organizational change, or social impact.
- The recipient must have demonstrated an ability to overcome adversity in their journey.

The nomination was received in response to promotion of this program on the City of Oshawa website, social media, pamphlets and nomination forms at City of Oshawa

recreation facilities, the Oshawa Senior Community Centres and branches of the Oshawa Public Libraries.

5.2 Considerations for the E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award

The E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award is to be awarded once every four years, in the fourth year of the council term. The next E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award is to be awarded in 2026.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations contained in this report.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report addresses the Oshawa Strategic Plan by responding to the goal of “Social Equity” and the related theme of “Enrich Our Community Through Diversity” by recognizing the volunteer sector and engaging citizens of all ages through the nomination process.

The report addresses Culture Counts: Oshawa Arts Culture and Heritage Plan by responding to the goal “Building Strong, Vital and Connected Arts, Culture and Heritage Sector” and related strategy of “Continue to look for opportunities to leverage partnerships in the arts, culture and heritage sector” by recognizing the volunteers/groups that are engaged and have been nominated through the process.



Jim Naumovski, Director,
Recreation Services



Ron Diskey, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

EP Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award Purpose of Award:

In 2016, Council approved the Proposed Program for Honouring the Windfields Farm Legacy (Report DS-16-23). The E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award celebrates someone who exemplifies innovation and has overcome adversity.

Criteria:

- Recipient lives or works in Oshawa OR collaborates with an Oshawa-based organization.
- City of Oshawa employees are not eligible for the award, but may nominate individuals.
- The recipient must exemplify innovation. This could include:
 - Developing and implementing new ideas into tangible initiatives, programs or projects in the community;
 - Leading transformational change that has impacted the community;
 - Innovation may focus on technological products, organizational change, or social impact.
- The recipient must have demonstrated an ability to overcome adversity in their journey.

Nominations must:

- Identify the merit of the individual being nominated.
- Provide evidence of the impact of the individual's innovation on the community.
- Provide evidence of the individual's ability to overcome adversity.
- Provide evidence of recognition by the local community.
- Describe the individual's career path and/ or organizational background.

Nomination Process:

- Nominations must include a summary that adequately describes the individuals' innovation, or contribution to the community through innovation. The summary must also describe how the individual overcame adversity and struggle to succeed with the innovation.

Recognition:

- Award and certificate presented as part of a Council meeting, currently identified in May (as per Report DS-16-23).
- The award includes an etching of Northern Dancer.
- Award recipient identified on City website and through media release as well as Social Media.

E.P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award Program

Previous Recipients:

2018 - Gary Polonsky

- President of Durham College, 1988 to 2006
- First President of University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), 2003 to 2006
- President Emeritus of UOIT, 2006 to Present
- An instrumental champion to create UOIT to establish a knowledge based economy powered by the leading education innovation programs offered at UOIT
- The only Canadian to serve concurrently as a President of a college and university
- In 2007 he received the Province's Lifetime Achievement Award which recognizes leadership and vision within Ontario's post-secondary system
- Considerable volunteer work with many charities and organizations