

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

From: Kevin Alexander, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

Report Number: CO-24-14

Date of Report: March 13, 2024

Date of Meeting: March 18, 2024

Subject: Selection of the 2024 Oshawa Community Legend Award
Recipient

Ward: All Wards

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Report is to present the nominations for the selection of the 2024 Oshawa Community Legend Award.

Attachment 1 is the procedures and criteria for recognition of the Oshawa Community Legend Recognition Program.

Confidential Attachment 2 contains the nominations for consideration for the Oshawa Community Legend Award in 2024.

Attachment 3 is the Oshawa Community Legend Award recipients from 2008 – 2023.

2.0 Recommendation

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

That pursuant to Report CO-24-14 dated March 13, 2024, concerning the selection of the 2024 Oshawa Community Legend Award recipient:

1. That the Community and Operations Services Committee select the 2024 Oshawa Community Legend Award recipient from the nominations presented in Confidential Attachment 2 to this Report; and
2. That the 2024 Oshawa Community Legend Award be presented to the selected recipient at a future meeting of Council.

3.0 Executive Summary

Not applicable.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

- Chief Administrative Officer
- Commissioner, Economic and Development Services
- Commissioner, Safety and Facilities Services
- Commissioner, Corporate and Finance Services
- Finance Services
- Legal Services
- Legislative Services

5.0 Analysis

On January 16, 2006, Council approved the procedure and criteria for the recognition of a Community Legend at the Delpark Homes Centre (Formerly Legends Centre). The goal of this annual program is to celebrate the accomplishments of an Oshawa Community Legend and to recognize individuals and/or groups who have significantly contributed to their discipline or the Oshawa community. The procedures and criteria for determining the Oshawa Community Legend Award recipient are attached to this report as Attachment 1.

A total of 20 nominations were 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, branches of the OSCC 55+ and Oshawa Public Libraries.

The Selection Committee, comprised of the Commissioner, Community and Operations Services and the Community and Operations Services Committee, is to select one Community Legend from the nominations contained in Confidential Attachment 2 to this Report.

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 goal of Social Equity and the related theme of Enrich Our Community Through Diversity by recognizing the volunteer sector and engaging residents of all ages through the nomination process.



Jim Naumovski, Director,
Recreation Services



Kevin Alexander, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

COMMUNITY LEGEND PROGRAM

The goal of the program is to annually celebrate the accomplishments of an “Oshawa Community Legend”.

Who is a Community Legend?

A Community Legend is a person and or group who:

- Excels in the activity or sport that they participate in
- Contributes to or makes an impact to the Oshawa Community, on a grass roots level, in the following areas:
 - Art and Culture
 - Sport
 - Community Initiatives
- Is of any age
- Is not necessarily a resident of Oshawa, as long as he/she has made an impact in Oshawa
- Has not received recognition through other organizations, i.e.: Sports Hall of Fame, OCCNA and affiliates, YWCA etc.

Frequency of Recognition: 1 selection per year

Award Includes:

- Name displayed in a display case at Delpark Homes Centre
- Name be added to a permanent plaque on an annual basis
- A 3 month Level 1 Membership
- Letter from the Mayor and certificate of recognition presented in a portfolio

Nomination Process:

- All nominations must be submitted and endorsed by an individual or an organization
- All nominations must be submitted on a city nomination form

Nomination Procedure:

- Nominations are reviewed once per year by a selection committee
- Staff prepare display
- Presentation of award to recipient coordinated by staff

Selection Committee:

The selection committee will be comprised of the Commissioner, Community and Operations Services and the Community and Operations Services Committee as per June 10, 2008 Council Directive.

Community Legend Recognition Program

Previous Recipients:

2023 Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Durham Region Branch (UCC-Durham)

- UCC-Durham unites both Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian community members, volunteers, leaders, and religious and other organizations in Oshawa. Together they have worked with Municipal, Regional, Provincial and Federal governments to organize the Durham Ukrainian Relief Project and the Durham Ukrainian Relief Fund (DURF).

2022 The entire community of residents, workers, volunteers, community groups, businesses, and institutions in both the public and private sectors of the great City of Oshawa.

- For their resiliency, support, compassion, kindness, dedication and sacrifices during unprecedented times related to the pandemic. For their efforts and contributions to control, contain and manage the Coronavirus (COVID-19). For all their contributions made to support the health, safety and well-being of our community during the pandemic.

2021 Julian Sheehan-Ford

- A youth who has raised over \$10,000 through his charity "A Rose to Remember" for veterans. He is a Canadian Ambassador for Free Riders Without Borders. Since the age of 8 he has been visiting veterans and handing out roses to thank them for their sacrifice and service.

2020 Jim Fergusson

- Heads up Food for Clothing Exchange. Over 30 years of volunteering in the community.

2019 S.J. Jim Brewster

- Retired from the Air Force, a member of Legion #43 for over 70 years, Jim has donated almost a \$1,000,000 to the Oshawa hospital.

2018 Sharon Clark

- Sharon has worked closely with Durham Children's Aid Foundation through her own charity Sharon's Kids which is celebrating 50 years this year!

2017 Gord Reid

- Gord was a foster parent, Block Parent, and a member of the Neighbourhood Watch. He volunteered with Community Care Durham, Meals on Wheels and the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centers. He was awarded the Provincial honour of Senior of the Year in 2008

2016 Mal Knocker

- Mal has served his community through the Canadian Armed Forces, the Oshawa Fire Department (35 years), as a coach to numerous teams, fundraiser and blood donor (140 units). He is a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #43 and also Drum Major of their Pipe Band.

2015 Chelsea Smith

- A dedicated student who has given her time at the Y.M.C.A., a local senior's centre, Lakeridge Health, as an afterschool helper as well as helping to build schools in Africa.

2014 Jackie Finn

- 42 years of community service with the trade union, Meals on Wheels and the Auto Workers Community Credit Union.

2013 Viola Pilkey

- Significant contribution of time and talent to social causes and political parties.

2012 Bob Hooper

- "Oshawa's #1 Fan"

2011 Ken Shaw

- A tireless volunteer devoted to numerous charities.

2010 Dave Thompson

- Dedication and leadership in the development of rugby in Oshawa.

2009 Jim Potticary

- Advocating for the health, welfare and happiness of senior citizens.

2008 Oshawa Block Parents Association

- Providing a safe haven for the children in our community.