

To: Community and Operations Services Committee

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

Report Number: CO-26-13

Date of Report: April 8, 2026

Date of Meeting: April 13, 2026

Subject: Selection of the 2026 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 nominations for the selection of the 2026 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award.

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

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

2.0 Recommendation

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

That based on Report CO-26-13 dated April 8, 2026 concerning the selection of the 2026 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient:

1. That the Community and Operations Services Committee select the 2026 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion recipient from the nominations presented in Confidential Attachment 2 of said Report; and,
2. That the 2026 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award be presented to the selected recipient at the Oshawa Community Awards Special Meeting of Council.

3.0 Input From Other Sources

- Corporate Performance & Strategic Initiatives
- Legal Services
- Legislative Services

4.0 Analysis

4.1 Background on E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award

At its meeting of February 22, 2016, Council approved the E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award for an individual who exemplifies innovation and has overcome adversity. The criteria and procedures for determining the E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award recipient are attached to this report as Attachment 1.

At its meeting of January 26, 2026, Council approved the consolidation of the City's various award programs into a single, unified awards program re-branded as the Oshawa Community Awards. To elevate the awards and enhance the recipient experience a special Meeting of Council will be convened to present all awards under the Oshawa Community Awards program at the same time. The ceremony will highlight the range of community contributions being recognized and create a more meaningful and celebratory experience for recipients, members of Council, and the public.

4.2 2026 E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award Nominations

A total of three (3) nominations were received. The Community and Operations Services Committee is requested to select one recipient from the list of nominees contained in Confidential Attachment 2 to this Report for recommendation to Council.

5.0 Financial Implications

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

6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area “Lead: Governance and Service Excellence” with the goal to embrace innovation and advance continuous improvement initiatives and actions.



Stacey Gray-McQuat, Director,
Recreation Services



Kevin Alexander, Commissioner,
Community and Operations Services Department

E. P. Taylor Windfields Farm Champion Award

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.
- 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.
- City of Oshawa employees are not eligible for the award, but may nominate individuals.
- Cannot be self-nominated.
- Cannot be nominated posthumously.

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:

- A letter from the Mayor.
- An etching of Northern Dancer.
- Their name and achievements are highlighted on the corporate website, featured in a media release, and promoted across social media channels.