

Lynn Ziraldo Advocacy Award



History: The Lynn Ziraldo award was created in 2016 to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Ontario Council for Exceptional Children and to honour an individual who selflessly advocated on behalf of children/youth with special education needs and their families.

The Power of One

“I am only one, But still I am one. I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something; And because I cannot do
everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do”

By Edward Everett Hale

Criteria: This award may be given annually to an individual or an organization who embodies the spirit and qualities of Lynn Ziraldo. The recipient of this award shall:

- Passionately advocate for children and youth with special needs;
- Champion those who have limited voice and ensure that their voices are heard, including children and youth, and their families;
- Foster self-advocacy;
- Support community development in the understanding of the principles of equity and inclusion; and
- Walk the talk, especially when it's not popular but it's the right thing to do.

Token: An engraved plaque

Presented: At the Annual Provincial Conference

Guidelines:

1. Individual or organization nominated does not need to be a member of CEC.
2. Individual or organization should have demonstrated leadership in the advocacy of children and youth with special needs; such leadership will have had a positive impact on the lives of children and youth with special needs.
3. At least two letters of support and resume/curriculum vitae must accompany nomination.
4. An individual member of Ontario CEC, a Chapter or a Subdivision must submit the nomination.
5. Lynn Ziraldo, or a designate, will assist in determining the award recipient, from among the eligible nominations.

Lynn Ziraldo, or a designate, will present the award at the annual Ontario CEC Special Education Conference.