Legal Aid Ontario

Sidney B. Linden Access to Justice Awards

For outstanding achievement in legal aid service

Nomination form

Complete this form to nominate someone for their exceptional contributions to access to justice and legal aid services in Ontario.

Nominees may be lawyers, paralegals, LAO service providers (including staff of community legal clinics, student legal services organizations and Indigenous legal services organizations), academics, policy professionals, post-secondary students, and other professionals.

Deadline for nominations: 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30, 2026

PART A: Nominator information

Name of nominator:

Title/organization:

Contact: Phone:

Email:

PART B: Nominee (award candidate information)

Name of nominee:

Title/organization:

Contact: Phone:

Email:

I am nominating this person for the (select all that apply)

☐ **Student Award**
Recognizes post-secondary students who demonstrate exceptional promise in advancing access to justice and legal aid services. Eligible nominees include students currently enrolled in a post-secondary program in Ontario, including but not limited to law school, university programs and college programs.

☐ **Rising Leader Award**
Recognizes professionals in the early stage of their careers who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to access to justice and legal aid services. Eligible nominees include individuals in the first 10 years of their careers.

☐ **Changemaker Award**
Recognizes professionals who are driving innovation and systemic change in access to justice and legal aid services. This award is open to individuals at any career stage whose work has tangibly addressed barriers to justice or reimagined how legal aid and justice services are delivered.

☐ **Lifetime Achievement Award**
Recognizes individuals whose careers reflect a sustained, distinguished dedication to advancing access to justice and legal aid services in Ontario. This award honours career-spanning contributions that serve as an inspiring example of unwavering commitment to low-income Ontarians.

Please provide a statement outlining the reasons for your nomination:

PART C: Supporting material

Please check the boxes below to confirm that the supporting materials have been submitted with this form.

If you wish to renew a nomination that you made in the previous award cycle, please check the third box below to indicate that your supporting materials from the previous year should be carried over, along with any updated information that you may wish to include with this form.

- ☐ Nominee's current Curriculum Vitae
- ☐ Letters of support (minimum of two)
- ☐ Request carry-over of supporting materials from previous award cycle

PART D: Nominator checklist

Please ensure the following when completing a nomination form:

- ☐ You are not both the nominator and the nominee.
- ☐ You have signed the nominator form.
- ☐ Your nomination includes the current Curriculum Vitae of the nominee.
- ☐ Your nomination includes at least two references letters in support of the nominee.
- ☐ You have provided a statement outlining the reasons for your nomination.
- ☐ You have nominated no more than two nominees.

PART E: Declaration of nominator

☐ As a nominator for Legal Aid Ontario's Sidney B. Linden Access to Justice Award, I have read carefully the nomination checklist on this form. I certify that the information contained in this nomination form is accurate and complete, to the best of my knowledge.

Name

Date (YYYY-MM-DD)

Signature (digital signature optional)

SUBMISSION

Please send your compeleted nomination package by email to LAO's External Relations department via external.relations@lao.on.ca.

NOTE: At this time, LAO is unable to accept hard copy submissions. All submissions will need to be emailed with .doc or .pdf files. These can be sent to us either as email attachments or as a link to a Google Drive folder. (Dropbox cannot be used.)

For further information about the awards please visit LAO's website at: www.legalaid.on.ca/SBL

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