FOCUS ON ACCESSIBILITY AWARDS
NOMINATION GUIDELINES / APPLICATION PROCESS

Objectives

The **Focus on Accessibility Awards** funded by the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility aims to inspire students to use their creativity to:

- contribute to the creation of a culture of accessibility in Canada;
- motivate students to think about accessibility issues and include accessibility in their creation of social and technological innovations now and in the future;
- develop cost-effective, practical and innovative concepts, programs, initiatives or designs that address every day accessibility issues.

Award Eligibility

- Nominees must be Post-Doctoral Fellows or Doctoral or Masters students with supervisors affiliated with the Kite Research Institute of Toronto Rehab, University Health Network (KITE).
- Nominees must be working on a research project that has made/has the potential to make a contribution of significance that incorporates one or more of the four themes of accessibility: dignity, respect, integration, equal opportunity.
- Students enrolled in professional masters and professional doctorate programs are eligible.
- Previous winners of this award are not eligible to apply.

Application Package

The following guidelines will assist you with the supporting documents you should submit along with the award **nomination form**. **Individuals may self-nominate.**

1. **Outline of Nominee's Research Project**
   Include a summary of the nominee's research project that makes them an ideal candidate for a Focus on Accessibility Award. It should be thorough enough to allow the Adjudication Committee to fully evaluate the nomination for contributions to one or more of the four themes of accessibility: dignity, respect, integration, equal opportunity; for example: volunteer leadership, mentorship, community-building, demonstrating commitment to diversity, removing barriers to accessibility.
   - Limit document length to a maximum of 1000 words.

2. **Letters of Support**
   - Maximum of two letters of support; each letter not to exceed 500 words

3. **Journal publications/ Newspaper Articles/ Video /Slideshow**
   - Provide web links to no more than three relevant articles and/or attach a maximum of two journal publications. These publications and articles can be directly related to the research project, or previous projects worked on and/or show authorship and research activity. A link to a video/slideshow that demonstrates the nominee has been a part of a project that focuses on aging/accessibility is also acceptable.

Evaluation Criteria

The selection of award recipients is based solely on the information provided in the nomination package. The Adjudication Committee members review each submission to determine that it:

- supports the objectives of the program;
- is concise, innovative and clearly demonstrates a solution to an accessibility issue;
- demonstrates that the needs of persons with disabilities have been considered;
- establishes that the project is cost-effective and shows promise for practical application.

Recognition of the Recipients

- Winners* will receive a certificate and cheque as follows:

Post-doctoral Fellow (1)	$2,000
Doctoral level (2)	$2,000 each
Masters level (2)	$2,000 each

  *Successful recipients of this competition will be responsible to report income from this student competition as required by the Canada Revenue Agency.

- Recipient details will be publicised within and outside the KITE community.
- Recipients are required to participate in the creation of a short video that highlights them and their work; the video will be uploaded to YouTube and KITE-UHN website

Please send your nominations to Lois Ward, lois.ward@uhn.ca indicating "FAA2020 < <lastname> <firstname> by May 4 2020, 11:59 pm EDT