



2009 NATIONAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AWARDS

February 15 – 21, 2009

What is inclusive education?

Inclusive education means ensuring that all students are educated with their peers, have equitable access to learning and achievement, and are welcomed, valued and supported in the education system. Inclusive education promotes participation, friendship and interaction.

Why do we celebrate?

To highlight National Inclusive Education Week and to bring attention to the many positive examples of inclusive classrooms and schools across the country, the Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL) has created a national certificate of recognition to be bestowed upon recipients who have made positive contributions to inclusive education in their province or territory.

Three awards will be selected in the areas of early childhood education, K-12 education and post-secondary education. Winners will be announced during Inclusive Education Week (February 15-21, 2009) and honoured at our Spring Federation meeting.

What is the nomination criteria?

An individual, group or organization that goes above and beyond what is expected in their role to initiate, inspire, promote, implement, support, advocate, develop or create unique opportunities that result in the enriched lives of students, with and without disabilities.

What are some indicators of successful inclusion?

- Students are unconditionally accepted into all aspects of the life of the school, preschool, public school or the post-secondary education system. School is the foundation for inclusion.
- The appropriate support to students and educators are provided to ensure that students can participate fully with their peers.
- All students are seen for what they can do and build on that rather than focusing on what they cannot do. Limitations based on labels are removed.
- The presence of strong leadership for inclusion and partnerships with parents and educators.
- The recognition and understanding that students achieve goals in different ways.
- Educators are knowledgeable about different ways of teaching so students with varying abilities and strengths can learn together.

