

# Call for Nominations for Inclusive Education Awards

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February 28, 2025

The Provincial Government, through Inclusion Canada Newfoundland and Labrador, is inviting nominations for the 2025 Inclusive Education Award.

Each year, the award is presented to a K-12 school in Newfoundland and Labrador that has shown exceptional spirit in creating a school that is welcoming and inclusive for students with intellectual disabilities.

The deadline for submissions is May 9, 2025, and the nomination form can be found online [here](#).

The recipient in 2024 was Avoca Collegiate in Badger. The school was selected based on its work to design and implement programs and activities that are inclusive of all students. The school administration and staff approach work with a universal design for learning lens to create an environment where every student can reach their full potential.

All academic programs, extracurricular activities and school events are created to promote participation of all students. With a school population of about 50 students, Avoca Collegiate has been able to offer a leadership program and two basketball teams that are open to all students. The school is also affiliated with the Jays Care organization of the Toronto Blue Jays through Jays Care.

Inclusion Canada Newfoundland and Labrador is a non-profit organization that works with and on behalf of the more than 15,000 people with intellectual disabilities in our province.

February is Inclusive Education Month in Canada. The Provincial Government supports a welcoming school culture where all members of the school community feel they belong, realize their potential, and contribute to the life of the school.

## Quotes

“Celebrating diversity and our talents is what makes us stronger. I hope that everyone takes time to celebrate each other and our individual and unique talents. Inclusion is about creating and making space for everyone and fostering an environment where everyone feels that they belong. Learning from each other makes all of us appreciate one other. I encourage students and teachers to share their experiences about inclusion

and apply for the Inclusive Education Award.”  
Honourable Krista Lynn Howell  
Minister of Education

“Inclusive education is a fundamental right that benefits all students, fostering a sense of belonging, respect, and opportunity in our schools and communities. When students with and without disabilities learn together, they develop lifelong collaboration, understanding, and empathy skills. At Inclusion Canada NL, we are committed to advocating for strong, inclusive learning environments that support the success of every child. As we open nominations for this year’s Inclusive Education Award, we encourage educators, schools, and community members to recognize those who go above and beyond to create welcoming and supportive classrooms. Their dedication to inclusion shapes a brighter, more equitable future for all students in Newfoundland and Labrador.”

Kem Young  
President, Inclusion Canada NL

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**Learn more**  
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