

NLIS 1  
**Education**  
March 14, 2023

## **Call for Nominations for Inclusive Education Awards**

The Provincial Government, through Inclusion Canada Newfoundland and Labrador, is inviting nominations for the 2023 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 an intellectual disability.

The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2023 and the nomination form can be found online [here](#).

The recipient in 2022 was St. Matthew's Elementary in St. John's. The school was recognized for providing effective support and accommodations to ensure equitable opportunities for students, allowing them to see and feel the encouragement of love, acceptance and inclusion within the school community. The school will upgrade adaptive equipment in its play area and ensure a safe, caring, inclusionary playground. St. Matthew's Elementary uses adaptive equipment during field trips, and holds an awareness week for neurodiverse learners who participate in spirit days and different activities to celebrate each other.

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.

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**

"Embracing diversity while teaching and learning together in the classroom makes a more inclusive space for students. Fostering acceptance in our school communities helps children share and work together. I encourage students and teachers to share their experiences about inclusion at their schools and apply for the Inclusive Education Award.

Honourable John Haggie  
Minister of Education

"We are pleased to partner again with the Department of Education on this award. While it has been difficult navigating the 'new normal' of education, I am confident that inclusion remains a priority in classrooms. It is about creating a new space, a stronger inclusive space for all young people with intellectual disabilities. Supporting a strength-based approach, we seek to celebrate and accommodate the resilience of the next generation. We need to continue to embrace an inclusive educational environment with the support of a society that is responsive, respectful, and ready to truly embrace inclusivity for all our children."

Dennis Gill

President, Inclusion Canada NL

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**Learn more**

[Nomination Information form for the 2023 Inclusive Education Award](#)

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