



Rotary

Club of

**Richmond Hill  
Media Release**

**ANNOUNCING THE WOMEN OF INSPIRATION & LEADERSHIP AWARD (WILA)**

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill is very happy to announce its 2nd annual Women of Inspiration & Leadership Award, or WILA. The award recognizes a woman who has contributed to the greater good of the Richmond Hill Community through her leadership, achievement, and example of distinction. She may have done so through her contribution to a corporation, government, not-for-profit, start-up, or service to the community.

In addition to the prestige of receiving an award that recognizes the winner as a woman of inspiration and leadership, the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill will donate \$1,000 to a charity of the winner's choice.

Earlier this year, the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill recognized Sajida Habib as the winner of its 2021 WILA. Sajida has contributed to the Richmond Hill community through her volunteer leadership and continues to inspire others to help build a better community for us all. Sajida selected Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region Inc. as the recipient of the \$1,000 donation and she was honoured at a special presentation event in the Spring.

Noeline Paul, Chairperson of the WILA Nomination Committee, said ***"The launch of the WILA last year received tremendous support throughout the community and from many elected officials. Our club is very happy to have received nominations on behalf of numerous deserving candidates and we are were thrilled to have Sajida Habib as our first WILA winner. We look forward to nominations for the next WILA."***

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill is now seeking nominations for its 2022 WILA. This award is an opportunity to showcase and appreciate women who lead and inspire us in our local community.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION

The WILA will be presented to a woman who has contributed towards improving the well-being of Richmond Hill residents through the creation, development and/or implementation of a specific initiative or program.

Women do not need to be residents of Richmond Hill to be eligible for nomination for the WILA, however their contribution(s) must have a positive impact upon the Richmond Hill Community. While these contributions can also be to areas outside of Richmond Hill, successful nomination applications must demonstrate the women's positive impact to the greater good of the Richmond Hill Community.

Self-nominations will not be accepted. Rotarians and their immediate family members also cannot be nominated for the WILA.

## HOW TO NOMINATE A WOMAN

Anyone can nominate a woman for the WILA. While it is possible to nominate more than one woman for the award, nominators are encouraged to focus on one candidate per nomination year.

In order to nominate a woman for the WILA, the nominator will need to complete the Nomination Form, which is available on the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill's dedicated WILA website <https://rotaryrh.wixsite.com/womensinitiatives>. Further instructions about the nomination process and what is required for nomination can be found there.

Nominations must include the name and contact details for two referees (in addition to the person submitting the nomination). These referees should be familiar with the nominee's contributions and accomplishments. The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill may contact the person submitting the nomination and/or the referees to obtain additional information in deciding the winner.

## WHAT THE WINNER RECEIVES

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill will recognize the winner of the WILA by presenting her with a special certificate and showcasing her accomplishments in promotional materials. These materials include publications that may be used for one of the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill's major events and postings on our website and social media. The winner must agree to have her biography and photograph publicized.

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill will also donate \$1,000.00 to one of the winner's selected charities. The selected charities must provide services to the Richmond Hill Community. These

charities do not need to be based out of Richmond Hill and may also provide services outside of the area. In addition, the selected charities must align with the mission of Rotary International. The mission of Rotary International is as follows:

*We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.*

In order to help the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill decide on the charity to receive the \$1,000 donation, the winner of the WILA will be asked to forward the names of three charities that meet the eligible criteria. The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill will then decide which of the three selected charities will receive the \$1,000 donation.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

The required forms and instructions can be found at <https://rotaryrh.wixsite.com/womensinitiatives/programs>.

Questions can be addressed to the WILA Nomination Committee at [rchrwomens@gmail.com](mailto:rchrwomens@gmail.com).