

The Learning Disabilities Association of York Region
25th V.I.P. Award 2017



It is with great pleasure that the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region (LDA-YR) presented the 25th V.I.P. Award to Lynn Ziraldo on September 25th 2017 at the Annual General Meeting. This is a nomination based award which recognizes the significant work of an individual, duo, or team believed to have contributed the most to enhancing lives of individuals living with Learning Disabilities and/or ADHD.

This past year LDA-YR saw a change in leadership with its very own Lynn Ziraldo stepping down from her role as Executive Director and commencing her new role as Strategic Advisor. For 38 years Lynn led the Association to grow to what it has become today — To honour Lynn for her time, tireless dedication, and unwavering commitment to the LDAYR's strategic direction, mission, and vision, Lynn was presented with a plaque honoring her 39 years to date as a V.I.P. advocate for the LD population.

LDA-YR's Executive Director Helga Sirola who had the pleasure of working alongside Lynn for almost 10 years shared: "Lynn is someone that cares about people, someone that will fight for human rights and someone that will hold your hand and help you through the hard times, always positive with a caring ear to listen. The accomplishments on paper are there to tell you her expertise in the field, but they will not tell you about her character. When Lynn talks to people she really cares, she troubleshoots and she achieves."

Some may say if you search the word resiliency in the dictionary, you will find Lynn's picture!

LDA-YR's Past President Melissa Chung shared what it's like to have been a part of Lynn's team:

"You don't want to give up because Lynn does not give up, you can't let her down."

CEO of the LDA-Ontario Lawrence Barns shared:

"I wanted on behalf of LDAO to congratulate Lynn on a well-deserved VIP Award. LDAO continues to benefit from her insight and expertise and this award is well deserved. Congrats Lynn!"