

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20th, 2017

LDAS HONOURS SEVEN SUDBURIANS AT ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER



Award Winners: (from left to right) Gwen Price, Tanya Quesnel, Tammy Rychlo, Maureen Bartolucci, Dr. Lace-Marie Brogden (LU Faculty of Education), Dr. Kevin McCormick and Carrie Wilson.

(Sudbury, ON) – The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury (LDAS) hosted their Second Annual Awards Dinner at the Holiday Inn on November 16th, 2017. With more than 120 people in attendance, the fundraising dinner recognized individuals and community partners that have contributed to the successful and continuous growth of the organization. The non-profit organization formed in 1999 when a small group of passionate parents set up an organization that supported children with learning disabilities and their families.

“With community support, amazing partnerships and funding from United Way, Ontario Trillium Foundation and others, LDAS has grown to be one of the most successful chapters across this province,” said Mary-Liz Warwick, Executive Director of the LDAS. “We wanted to find a way to honour all those individuals and organizations that have helped us become what we are today. We felt that an Awards Dinner would be the perfect way to accomplish this goal.”

The LDAS Award recipients were:

Tanya Quesnel - Outstanding Student Award

This award recognizes a student who has been successful despite having been identified with a learning disability (LD). Tanya Quesnel has used her strengths and developed strategies to overcome the challenges of an LD. She is a mentor to many within the LD community and beyond.

Gwen Price - Ron Lessard Outstanding Parent Award

Gwen Price was recognized because she is always seeking any knowledge that may help with her child's success. Gwen also sat the LDAS Board of Directors from 2005-2012 and was instrumental in the development of the Coaching Program.

Maureen Bartolucci – Outstanding Volunteer Award

The engagement of volunteers ensures a more accessible world for our students with learning disabilities. The LDAS Outstanding Volunteer Award was awarded to Maureen Bartolucci for providing committed and dedicated service to the LD community.

Carrie Wilson - Outstanding Educator Award (RBSB)

The LDAS Outstanding Educator Award recognizes an exceptional educator within the Rainbow District School Board. Carrie Wilson has always gone above and beyond to ensure that students with learning disabilities are successful.

Tammy Rychlo - Outstanding Educator Award (SCDSB)

The LDAS Outstanding Educator Award recognizes an exceptional educator within the Sudbury Catholic District School Board. Tammy Rychlo consistently supports, encourages, and advocates for the success of students with learning disabilities.

Laurentian University Faculty of Education – Corporate Contribution Award

The Laurentian University Faculty of Education has supported the LDAS Coaching Program since its inception in 2006. The program allows third year LU Concurrent Education students to obtain their required placement hours by working one-on-one with a student identified with a learning disability.

Dr. Kevin McCormick - Outstanding Leadership Award

The LDAS Outstanding Leadership Award recognizes an individual who has focused on providing support to students with learning disabilities. Dr. Kevin McCormick has shown strong leadership and guidance to disability service providers in our community. Dr. McCormick is also the Chair of the Northern Ontario Centre for Learning Differences, which is responsible for replicating the programs and services being offered by the LDAS to the communities of North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins.

By hosting this event, The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury was able to raise awareness and honor those who have contributed to the learning disabilities community. All of the proceeds from this event will go toward the LDAS We Are Not Alone campaign. This campaign helps fund a parent support program, produce parent resources and develop workshops. If you would like to lend your support to the *We Are Not Alone* campaign, please visit www.truenorthstrong.ca.

Media Contact:

Mary-Liz Warwick

Executive Director,

The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

705-673-4126 ext. 207

maryliz@ldasudbury.ca