

June 8, 2026

## Applications Open for the Annual Sharron Cooke Legacy Award

Every long-term care home has moments where residents and team members work together on ideas or projects that transform home culture and make a meaningful difference in their day-to-day lives.

June 8, 2026, marks the opening of the Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award (SCALA), which honours a long-term care home where residents and team members collaborate on a grassroots, home-level project that strengthens their community. This Award celebrates shared effort and highlights what's possible when people come together with shared goals.



Sharron Cooke believed that real change happens WITH residents and this Award continues her legacy of trust, communication, friendship, hope, and collaboration. If your home has created something that brought people together — **big or small — we would love to hear your story.**

### Why Your Home Should Apply?

- ▶ Because your home has stories worth celebrating.
- ▶ Because residents' voices matter.
- ▶ Because small ideas can create big change
- ▶ Because your community deserves to be seen, honoured, and lifted up.

## This award recognizes projects where:

- ▶ Residents and team members dream together.
- ▶ People feel heard, included, and valued.
- ▶ Connections grow — between residents and staff, and across the home.
- ▶ Hope and possibility take root.

## What this award represents

- ▶ A belief that meaningful change happens when we do things with residents, not just for them.
- ▶ **A celebration of homes that lead with humanity and heart.**
- ▶ A reminder that community is built one shared moment at a time.

## What the Recipient Receives

A community-building prize (up to \$500), chosen by the award recipient's home.

**The Award Celebrates Collaboration, Communication, Trust, Friendship, and Hope - these were the values Sharron championed and the values that make a long-term care home feel like home.**

## Important 2026 Dates:

- June 8 - Applications Open
- August 21 at 5pm - Applications Close
- August 24-28 - Review period
- Week of September 7 - Award recipient notified and prize selected
- Residents' Council Week (September 14-20) - Award recipient announced publicly

## How to Apply

Applications are accepted online or by paper.

**Online Option:** Survey link <https://shorturl.at/s2TH2>

## **Paper Application Options:**

Click to download MS Word application. Mail, email, or fax your completed form and photos to OARC:

- Mail: 4262 Highway 7 East, Suite A14-360, Markham, ON L3R 9W6
- Email: [jlangston@ontarc.com](mailto:jlangston@ontarc.com)
- Fax: 905-731-1755

*Please do not include the name of your LTC home or participants in the written sections of the application.*