

## 1994 Ontario Premier's Awards for College Graduates Recipients



**Amos Key Jr.  
Applied Arts Award  
Mohawk College**

A graduate of the Television and Communications Arts program at Mohawk College, Mr. Key also has a diploma in Photographic Arts from Ryerson University. Currently the Director of the First Nations Language Program at the Woodland Cultural Centre, Mr. Key is active in promoting the cultural lifestyle of the First Nations in Southern Ontario.

Among his many accomplishments are the establishment of the Southern Onkwehon:we Nishnawbe Indigenous Communications Society radio station, acting as an advisor to several provincial ministries on issues relating to native education and communications, acting as an advisor to several Ontario Universities' on areas of native studies, and acting as an advisor to the Juno Awards on the selection of the first winner in the Aboriginal Music Category. A skilled Pow wow dancer, Mr. Key has won numerous Traditional Dance awards. He also produces, directs, performs and lectures on native dance and music.

Mr. Key's dedication to the preservation and promotion of the languages and culture of the First Nations through education ideally embodies the qualities of Premier's Award recipient

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### **Manon Lacelle Lacroix Business Award La Cité collégiale**

Nominated by La Cité collégiale, where she serves on the Advisory Committee of the Social Work Program, Ms Lacelle Lacroix has been Executive Director of the Prescott-Russell Community Services Planning Council since its inception in 1985. While attending the bilingual Business Administration program at St. Lawrence College, Ms Lacelle Lacroix was president of the Club Franco and a member of the French-Language Teaching Committee. She was named to the President's List upon her graduation.

During her college years, Ms Lacelle Lacroix worked for Cornwall's Business Improvement Area where she organized a promotional campaign and for the City of Hawkesbury where she produced a tourist guide to the region. In her current position she is responsible for planning and coordinating Prescott-Russell's social services network. Among her accomplishments is the development of a model of community consultation in planning services that is both proactive and reactive. The

model has been adopted by the provincial government and Ms Lacelle-Lacroix was the only Francophone named to the Ontario Social Development Council.

The continuing dedication to community service developed during her college years has earned Ms Lacelle Lacroix the tribute of a 1994 Premier's Award.

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**Fred Upshaw**

### **Health Sciences Award Durham College**

A native of Halifax, Mr. Upshaw graduated from the Nursing Program at Durham in 1975 and began his career in public service at the Whitby Psychiatric Hospital, where he was president of his union local.

While representing his co-workers, he often counselled people with personal problems such as alcoholism and marital difficulties and he was instrumental in setting up a joint union/management Employee Assistance Program. When he became First Vice-President of OPSEU in 1984, Mr Upshaw became responsible for all of these programs in Ontario. Also a strong advocate of better health and safety measures in the workplace. Mr. Upshaw has served on the boards of the Ontario Workers Occupational Safety and Health Centre and the Workplace Health and Safety Agency. In 1990, Mr. Upshaw was elected President of OPSEU and was re-elected in 1991 and 1993.

In addition to his dedication to the rights of workers, Mr. Upshaw has been continually involved in minor sports associations in Oshawa, and has been active in the Jaycees organization, serving as Toronto region president and three-time national public speaking champion.

Mr. Upshaw's commitment to improving the lives of Ontario workers through activism in the workplace and the community, makes him an ideal recipient of the Premier's Award.

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**Gerry M. Lougheed Jr.  
Health Sciences Award  
Humber College**

The recipient of many academic awards and scholarships, Mr. Lougheed graduated from the Funeral Services Education program at Humber College in 1976. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Funeral Services of Ontario, and was recently appointed to National Forum on Health by Prime Minister Chrétien.

Mr. Longheed is an active member of the Canadian Cancer Society. In this regard, he headed a campaign that raised over nine million dollars in funding for the Northeastern Ontario Regional Cancer Treatment Centre. He also hosted the Easter Seals Telethon for Northern Ontario for nine years, founded the Sudbury Widows' Self Help Group, helped found the Palliative Care Task Force, is a past director of The Community Hospice Association of Ontario, is also a past Chair of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, and has served on several Sudbury hospital boards.

In recognition of his commitment to serving community, Mr. Lougheed has been awarded Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Laurentian University, the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of Confederation, and the Ontario Medal for the Good Citizenship. This commitment truly embodies the qualities exemplified by the Premier's Awards.

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### **Gino Sonogo Technology Award Confederation College**

Mr. Sonogo graduated from the Architectural Design Technology Program at Confederation College in 1980. After an apprenticeship of four years, he was certified as a stonemason in 1985. That same year, he was injured in a fall which left him a quadriplegic and unable to practice his trade.

Following a six-month rehabilitation program, Mr. Sonogo was hired at Wing Construction as Contract Administrator, a position he still holds. He is responsible for site inspections, coordinating with sub-contractors and acting as a liaison between the sub-trades and main office. In addition to his busy work schedule, Mr. Sonogo is a member of the Canadian Paraplegic Association and was its Chairman in 1993-94. He was honorary Chair of the Provincial Games for the Physically Disabled in Thunder Bay in 1993 and was Most Outstanding Wheelchair Athlete at the 1987 games. In 1993, he received the Community Action Award from the Ministry of Citizenship.

Gino Sonogo's determination to overcome the obstacles he has faced to apply the skills learned in his program, and his commitment to promoting awareness of the needs of the paraplegic community make it a pleasure to honour him with a Premier's Award.