

Constance E. Hamilton Award Selection Committee

Councillor Maria Augimeri	Councillor Gloria Lindsay Luby
Councillor Ana Bailão	Councillor Pam McConnell
Councillor Michelle Berardinetti	Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon
Councillor Shelley Carroll	Councillor Frances Nunziata
Councillor Janet Davis	Councillor Jayne Robinson
Councillor Sarah Doucette	Councillor Karen Stintz
Councillor Paula Fletcher	Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam
Councillor Mary Fragedakis	

June 24, 2013

To: Executive Committee

From: Constance E. Hamilton Award Selection Committee

Subject: Recipient – 2013 Constance E. Hamilton Award

Recommendation:

That Toronto City Council confirms the unanimous selection made by the Constance E. Hamilton Award Selection Committee comprised of the Women Members of Council that Lynda Kosowan is the recipient of the 2013 Constance E. Hamilton Award.

Summary:

The Constance E. Hamilton Award was established in 1979 and is named after the first woman elected in 1920 to municipal council in Toronto. The award recognizes person(s) who have made a significant contribution to improving the social, economic, cultural and political status of women in Toronto.

The Selection Committee has reviewed the nominations submitted by the public and selected the following recipient for their contributions toward improving the status of women in Toronto:

Lynda Kosowan – Since 1986, Lynda Kosowan has dedicated her professional service to the Scarborough Women’s Centre, working to respond to the needs of women in her community. One of her most successful projects include working with the TTC surface route study conducted in partnership with City of Scarborough, TTC, Toronto Police, and Metrac, resulting in the implementation of recommendations to improve safety for women on public transit, including the Request Stop program and the re-design of bus shelters. Other programs and initiatives that Lynda has developed through the Women’s centre include:

- One on one counselling to support women who are dealing with abuse, making plans to leave abuse, or recovering from abuse and violence.
- Mentoring programs to help women who are in transition from an abusive relationship.
- Educational programs to help women become independent through life skills with topics such as healthy relationships, financial planning, dealing with anger, building self esteem and family law.

- A program specifically designed to help women with disabilities who are facing abuse, poverty and/or isolation.
- A young womens' outreach program dedicated to helping young women become aware of violence and abse in dating relationships.

Lynda received the Scarborough Civic Recognition Certificate in 1999, and she was named a Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International Foundation in 2007.

The Constance E. Hamilton Award will be presented during the City's Annual Human Rights Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 when the following awards will also be presented: Aboriginal Affairs Award, the Access Award on Disability Issues, the Pride Award for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual and Two Spirited Issues and the William P. Hubbard Race Relations Award.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pam McConnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Councillor Pam McConnell
on behalf of the Constance E. Hamilton Award Selection Committee