



MARCH  
OF DIMES  
CANADA

LA MARCHE  
DES DIX SOUS  
DU CANADA

# Wade Hampton Employment Training Bursary

**“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”**

**Dr. Martin Luther King**

## Why the Award

No one embodied the spirit and vision of Ontario March of Dimes (now March of Dimes Canada) more than Wade Hampton. A WWII flying veteran, Wade came home to Canada to pursue his love of skiing the mountains north of Montreal. At age 31, on the very day world headlines announced a vaccine to prevent polio; he was carried by ambulance to join a room full of young children stricken with the disease. A born fighter, Wade refused to be held back by the effects of polio, and recovered to create an extraordinary career and a rich personal life. As a polio survivor he personally understood Ontario March of Dimes' mandate: 'To assist individuals with physical disabilities in Ontario to achieve a meaningful and dignified life.'

Wade was passionate about the importance of employment for people with disabilities and was recruited to OMOD to implement a vision - that of full employment for people with disabilities – and he went on to become Chief Executive Officer of Operation Reliance Inc. (O.R.I.). O.R.I. was hugely successful, enabling many with disabilities to secure regular competitive employment. This became a model for other programs to train and place persons with disabilities.

Wade continued as a member of OMOD's Board of Directors, guiding the organization as a volunteer and serving as President of the Board from 1983 to 1985. In later years, Wade was made a Lifetime Member of the Board and the Executive Committee. His leadership on behalf of Canadians with disabilities was publicly recognized with the Ontario Community Action Award and the Canada Volunteer Award.

The purpose of the bursary is to:

- encourage employment advancement
- promote employment opportunities
- foster employment excellence

## Eligibility Criteria

- The Bursary is available to any Canadian with a physical disability requiring financial assistance in order to pursue a professional or career goal. The candidate must have a plan of professional development for which a course of training will help him / her to achieve his / her goal.
- The selected candidate will receive a \$1,500 Bursary to be applied to any training or development program that furthers his or her employment opportunities or career goal.



**Candidate (You may nominate yourself)**

First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female

Address (#, Street): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code/Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligibility and Career Goals**

1. Do you have a disability?:  Yes  No    2. Are you currently employed?:  Yes  No

3. What is your job or career goal?: \_\_\_\_\_

4. List the qualifications and training required to enter that job/career: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Outline your proposed training program, including an indication of the quality of the program: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Describe your plan to overcome other barriers, for example, lack of experience, need for accommodation: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of training provider: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code/Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Send Completed Form and Supporting Materials to:**  
Awards Selection Committee  
c/o Executive Assistant, March of Dimes Canada  
10 Overlea Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario, M4H 1A4  
or via fax to: 416-425-1802