

Sample Aurum Award Nomination:

I am pleased to nominate [Name], lead physiotherapist and owner of [REDACTED] for the Dalhousie University Aurum Award.

Over nearly four decades, she has exemplified the impact a physiotherapist can have through clinical excellence, leadership, innovation, education, research, and community service. Her career demonstrates not only a commitment to advancing the profession, but a remarkable ability to turn knowledge and compassion into opportunities for others.

She has continually pursued advanced education and evidence-based practice, specializing in neurological and vestibular rehabilitation. She has brought innovative technology and specialized services to Newfoundland and Labrador, including establishing a state-of-the-art [REDACTED] in St. John's and later a satellite clinic in rural central Newfoundland. These initiatives have expanded access to specialized care and reduced the significant travel burden for patients living outside St. John's. She was also an early leader in telerehabilitation, providing access to care for patients in remote communities, including Labrador.

Her commitment to education is equally significant. She has served as a clinical educator for students from Dalhousie, Memorial University, and institutions across Canada and the United Kingdom. She welcomes students and internationally trained physiotherapists into her clinics, creating an environment where they can learn through evidence-based practice, collaboration, and exposure to advanced clinical technology.

Perhaps most remarkable is the way she has extended her professional expertise beyond the clinic. Her volunteer work has created opportunities for people with disabilities to participate fully in their communities. She was instrumental in developing [REDACTED] an innovative therapy camp for children with limb loss that grew from a local initiative into a program serving children across the United States and Canada. She later founded [REDACTED] in Newfoundland, helping children and adults with disabilities learn to ride bicycles, tricycles, and hand cycles. For many participants, this provides an opportunity they might otherwise never have had: to experience independence, activity, and inclusion alongside family and peers.

She has also supported people living with Parkinson's disease through exercise, balance, voice, and Tai Chi programs and has contributed to research collaborations involving neurological and vestibular conditions. Across these initiatives, a consistent theme emerges: She sees potential in every person and works to create the opportunities and supports that allow that potential to flourish.

Her career is an exceptional example of how one Dalhousie graduate can extend the impact of physiotherapy far beyond the treatment room. Through her leadership, innovation, teaching, research, and extraordinary commitment to inclusion, she has improved the lives of countless patients, inspired colleagues and students, and helped advance the profession.

She represents the very best of what a Dalhousie graduate can contribute to a profession and to a community. I am proud to nominate her for the Aurum Award.