



The Donna Holwell Legacy Award honours individuals who, through their dedication and commitment to retirement living, have created a “legacy” of work resulting in positive change and measurable difference for the sector. Nominations are invited for individuals who have a demonstrated history of service in various capacities: exceptional people who have contributed both personally and professionally to the betterment of our sector. If you know someone who fits the criteria, recognize them with a Donna Holwell Legacy Award nomination!

## Donna Holwell's Legacy

Donna's contribution to the retirement community sector is a shining example of her passion for seniors housing demonstrated by her countless volunteer hours and activities. Her commitment was made both locally in her hometown of Orangeville and on a broader scale through ORCA, the Ontario Seniors Secretariat, and RHRA committee work.

Donna was always the first to raise her hand when an opportunity arose to ensure seniors continued to have choice, autonomy, and quality of life. Donna's legacy will remind us that she was truly an extraordinary person.

**Past honourees:** **Debbie Doherty** from Debbie Doherty Enterprises Inc. (2017), **Millie Christie** from Verve Senior Living (2018), **Dr. Ron Schlegel** from Schlegel Villages (2019), **Karen Sullivan** from Chartwell Retirement Residences (2020), **Jackie Dusome** from All Seniors Care (2021), **Bob Kallonen** from Amica Senior Lifestyles (2022), **Mike Lavallée** from Seasons Retirement Communities (2023), and **Sharon Ranalli** from Chartwell Retirement Residences (2024).

### Nomination Criteria:

- ❖ **10 years or more of dedicated service** and commitment to the seniors housing sector with a majority focus on retirement living.
- ❖ **Proven ability to move groups** of diverse people and organizations towards a common goal for the betterment of the retirement community sector.
- ❖ **Demonstrated achievements** designed to leave a lasting legacy and impact on the retirement community sector.
- ❖ **Gained respect of peers**, government officials, and community liaison groups.
- ❖ **Provided inspiration** and illustrated personal integrity.
- ❖ Actively volunteered their time to the Association on behalf of an organization that has maintained an **active ORCA Membership**.

### Nomination Guidelines:

- ❖ Nominee must be from the sector – working/retired/volunteer/posthumously.

- ❖ More than one person may be nominated from the same organization.
- ❖ Nomination must be from an ORCA member and cannot be a relative.
- ❖ Nominees who are unsuccessful this year may be re-submitted the following year without additional paperwork at the nominator's discretion.

### Submission:

- ❖ **New this year:** the nomination form is available online [here](#).
- ❖ **The submission deadline is August 10, 2025.**
- ❖ The successful honouree of the 2025 Donna Holwell Legacy Award will be chosen by several of the past honourees.
- ❖ The award will be presented during the Banquet Dinner at ORCA CON on September 10, 2025.
- ❖ The honouree(s) will be included in ORCA promotional materials regarding the award.