

Policy Sharon Brintnell Lifetime Achievement Award

Sharon Brintnell's career spanned over 45 years of full time practice. During this time she achieved the profession's highest awards: the Muriel Driver Memorial Lectureship Award (CAOT); the Dr. Helen P. LeVesconte Award for Volunteerism (CAOT); and the Karen Goldenberg Volunteer Award (Canadian Occupational Therapy Foundation - COTF).

She was the first Alberta Board Member to CAOT in 1976; President, CAOT, 1978 and 1979; Secretary, CAOT, 1986; Inaugural Board Member and Committee Chair, COTF; and primary developer of the national certification examination. Her role as Legislature Chairperson, Alberta Society of Occupational Therapists, led a process that resulted in Alberta occupational therapists gaining professional status and protection of name under the Alberta Association of Registered Occupational Therapists (AAROT).

She was Chairman of the Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Alberta, for 13 years and Acting Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine for one year. She conceived and directed the Occupational Performance Analysis Unit (OPAU), Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Alberta, providing occupational therapy service through third party funding and initiated functional capacity evaluation for medical legal purposes in the province.

International contributions included the role of Director of a CIDA funded project (1989-1994) introducing the profession in Indonesia, and consulting on the development of an occupational therapy program at the University of Kuwait. In 2008 she became President of the World Federation of Occupational Therapy (WFOT) following 20 years of service to the federation council and the executive.

Purpose

To recognize an Occupational Therapist who has made significant life-long contributions to the profession of Occupational Therapy. These contributions can be clinical, administrative, teaching, research, community development, policy development and/or voluntary work. A focus on an occupational therapist where dedication has gone unnoticed is encouraged; or who has demonstrated influence in more than one area of practice.

This Award is viewed as recognition of extraordinary lifetime professional actions and is bestowed only when a candidate is nominated who meets all the criteria following a rigorous review.

Policy Statement

The nomination form is signed by five currently practicing Occupational Therapists who are SAOT members and judged on more than one of the following criteria:

- Professional development: Demonstrated by consistent and significant contributions to the profession/practice of his or her career in clinical, administrative, teaching and/or research areas.
- Community development: Demonstrates leadership and achievement in community development by encouraging community partnership in health care or social integration of people with disability or dysfunction.

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Reviewed:

Approved:

Policy Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Policy development: Demonstrated by providing clear scientific or tacit data to inform and support the health policy-making process. The focus of the contribution is influence on policy decisions that impact people’s living and work circumstance and lifestyles. <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer contributions: Demonstrated outstanding service in the community and/or professional development with excellent service marked by leadership and achievement.
Requisites for Nomination	<p>Candidates are nominated on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Practiced as an Occupational Therapist for a minimum of 20 years (consecutive or not). <input type="checkbox"/> Nominee must be eligible for practice in Alberta, preferably an Albertan, but could be an individual outside of Alberta who has influenced practice in Alberta.
Award	<p>Exceptional recognition award. Lifetime membership with the SAOT. Letter of Recognition from SAOT President. Announcement on SAOT website and in e-newsletters. Recognition at the annual SAOT AGM.</p>
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nomination form obtained from SAOT website. 2. Nominator completes the form, outlining specific areas of strength and skills (no more than 300 words) and seeks five signatures from current occupational therapists in support of the nomination. 3. Nomination must be accompanied by testimonials of externals ad/or other evidence of impact. 4. Nominee’s contact information is provided including site, address, contact phone number and email address. 5. Submission of nomination to the Chairperson of the SAOT Awards and Grants Committee by April 1 (by email, fax or mail). 6. Awards and Grants Committee screen and select appropriate candidate within 60 days of the submission deadline. Only one award may be granted each year. 7. Upon selection, the Committee submits successful candidates to the SAOT Board for update. 8. The Committee chairperson informs the successful candidate of their selection prior to the annual AGM. 9. The Committee chairperson obtains recipient permission in writing to publicize on the SAOT website and in e-newsletters.

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Approved:

Approval Level Required for Policy	Board of Directors
Circulation of Documents	SAOT President (president@saot.ca) SAOT Secretary (file@saot.ca) Committee Members
Date Approved	
Approved by	Board of Directors: _____ Authorized Signature: _____ Printed Name and Position

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