

INFLUENTIAL WOMEN OF NORTHERN ONTARIO AWARDS



Wendy Landry

They're at your local bank, at the community centre and in the office towers downtown. They're executives, entrepreneurs, and small business owners. And this June, they've been recognized for their accomplishments.

It's all part of the Influential Women of Northern Ontario awards; a celebration of female leaders in the business world. At two ceremonies in North Bay and Thunder Bay, 15 women were recognized for their exceptional contributions.

OPG has supported the event for the last seven years, sponsoring the Aboriginal Leadership award. "I've gone to the awards for years now, and the feeling is just incredible," says Tana-Leigh Harty, a Corporate Relations Officer at OPG. "It's inspiring to see women driving entrepreneurship and running their own businesses and leading community initiatives."

Each of this year's winners is exceptional in her community. Wendy Landry, a member of Red Rock Indian Band, is Ontario's first female Aboriginal mayor. An outspoken advocate and educator, she has worked tirelessly to promote understanding of Indigenous culture –debunking untruths along the way.

"I certainly wasn't expecting the award," says Landry. "The fact that people see me as an influential woman reflects well on our community as a whole. This award demonstrates to other women there are a lot of great opportunities."

North Bay's Aboriginal Leadership winner was Angela Recollet. As Executive Director of the Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre, Recollet has been expanding Indigenous access to culturally-based holistic health care since 2010. Through her hard work, the centre's staff grew from 17 to more than 50 full and part time employees.

"What's great about the awards is that you find these women who are all so unique and exceptional," says Harty. "They really highlight the incredible accomplishments of the women of Northern Ontario and OPG is proud to support their recognition."



Angela Recollet



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