



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Ian Brown, one of 12 outstanding Canadians appointed to the YMCA Fellowship of Honour

The Honourable Senator Ratna Omidvar recognizes Dr. Ian Brown at the 2024 Investiture Ceremony

September 25, 2024 — St. Catharines, ON — Dr. Ian Brown has dedicated years of his life to expanding the reach of the YMCA in our community. His commitment and contributions were officially celebrated on September 25, 2024, when he received the [YMCA Fellowship of Honour](#) medal from the Honourable Senator Ratna Omidvar in a ceremony held at the Rideau Club in Ottawa, Canada.

“We are immensely proud of and grateful to Dr. Ian Brown,” says YMCA of Niagara CEO Christian Wulff. His leadership and years of dedication and passion have helped to build a stronger, healthier YMCA of Niagara, which, in turn, is helping to build a healthier Niagara. Ian’s personal investment to serve others has created a legacy that will be felt for generations.”

Dr. Ian Brown has played an essential role in leading numerous successful fundraising campaigns for the YMCA of Niagara, contributing to establishing community centers and programs to foster inclusivity and promote well-being across the region. His dedication to philanthropy and his lifelong commitment to improving the health and wellness of individuals have left a lasting impact on the Niagara community. Now enjoying retirement and focusing on new passions, including environmental sustainability, Dr. Brown's legacy continues to uplift and support the people of Niagara.

The YMCA Fellowship of Honour has recognized the distinguished and exceptional service of volunteers and staff since its inception in 1978. The induction of YMCA leaders takes place every three to four years under the patronage of the Governor General of Canada. More than 130 exemplary Canadians have been honoured in one of two categories: A Companion award recognizes outstanding national and international leadership, and an Officer award acknowledges local or regional leadership contributions. Dr. Ian Brown joins the Fellowship as an Officer.

Collectively, these committed Canadians have provided distinguished service to the YMCA in communities from coast to coast to coast. “Each of these individuals is a shining example of what it means to give back to community,” said Peter Dinsdale, YMCA Canada’s President and CEO. “Their passion for helping to ensure a sense of belonging for all has created ripples of positive impact in communities across Canada and worldwide. We are forever grateful for their contributions and reminded of the tremendous difference one committed person can make.”

About the YMCA Fellowship of Honour

The appointments to the YMCA Fellowship of Honour are governed by a selection process established by the YMCA Fellowship of Honour Constitution and directed by an Advisory Council composed of a Canadian YMCA leader as Chair, at least three Canadians who have served the YMCA with distinction, the Chair of the YMCA Board and the national President and Chief Executive Officer. The Council considers nominations received from throughout the Canadian movement and recommends appointments to the National Board for approval. Each recipient receives a Fellowship of Honour Medal designed by award-winning artist Dora de Pedery-Hunt, a framed citation and commemorative lapel pin and is featured in a book of Fellowship of Honour recipients.

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About the YMCA of Niagara

The YMCA of Niagara is a charitable organization dedicated to building healthy communities by nurturing the potential of children, youth, and families, promoting healthy living, and fostering social responsibility. With a focus on inclusivity, the YMCA offers a wide range of programs and services to empower individuals and positively impact the Niagara region. To learn more, visit www.ymcaofniagara.org.