

MacNaught-Taillon Leadership Award 2026:

Health Information and Informatics in Support of Health Policy

Call for Nominations

The Canadian health community has recognized the need to honour those that have made an enduring contribution to the advancement of the Canadian health information systems and informatics in support of better health and healthcare systems for all Canadians.

The MacNaught-Taillon Leadership Award honours two individuals who personified exemplary leadership and mentorship, and who promoted the development and use of high quality, integrated health information at all levels of decision-making in the Canadian health care system. Since 2008, their legacy has been honoured through a partnership with the Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation, the Canadian Health Leadership Network (CHLNet) and the Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research. In 2023, Healthcare Excellence Canada took on stewardship of the award with CHLNet and now involves a partnership with these two organizations along with Canada Health Infoway, and the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Since inception, the Award has celebrated the contributions of Dennis Protti (2008), Richard Alvarez (2011), Les Roos (2014), Brian Postl (2017), Jennifer Zelmer (2020), and Vivek Goel (2023). The award recipient will be invited to accept the M&T Award at the e-Health Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia (travel and accommodation expenses to be covered). The award is accompanied by a \$1,500 bursary to an emerging leader in health information/ informatics and/or patient partner leader, as designated by the Award recipient.

An awards committee has been struck, with representation from the sponsoring organizations and from the MacNaught and Taillon families and/or friends, and it is now inviting nominations.

Please see the attached nominations form. The closing date for nominations is **Friday April 17th, 2026**. Nominators should submit the completed nomination form, with an up-to-date biography or short resume of the candidate and a short one-page letter of recommendation to kgrimes@chlnet.ca.

Thank you for helping us celebrate excellence in health information leadership in Canada.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Zelmer

President & CEO

Healthcare Excellence Canada

Kelly Grimes

CEO

CHLNet

MacNaught-Taillon Leadership Award 2026:

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Nomination Form

In 2008, the M&T Award was established to honour the outstanding and lasting contributions of Don MacNaught and Serge Taillon in advancing evidence-informed health policy across Canada. Having served in a number of senior health leadership positions in the public service, Don and Serge were instrumental to initiatives such as the Canada Health Act, the National Health Information Council, the National Health Information Task Force and, subsequently, the creation of the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Their vision, leadership and mentorship contributed significantly to the realization of *better health and health care* for all Canadians through better health information. Don was referred to as “Mr. Medicare” by former Health Minister Hon. Monique Bégin. Serge was known by his colleagues as “Mr. Health Information”.

The M&T award recognizes exemplary health information and informatics leadership and mentorship in the advancement of Canadian values and in support of evidence-informed health policies and programs across Canada.

The criteria for this award include:

- Fostering effective linkages and exchanges in support of evidence-informed health policy;
- Fostering pan-Canadian approaches to the development and adoption of innovative approaches to gathering and sharing health information;
- Mentoring the next generation of Canadian health policy analysts and practitioners of the information sciences;
- Developing and articulating a vision for an integrated health information system for Canada; and
- Fostering policy relevant health-related research.

This award is presented every three years, and this year will be given on June 15th at the annual [e-Health Conference](#), the premier event for Canadian digital health professionals working to make a difference in health and healthcare delivery.

The M&T Award is adjudicated by a committee comprised of representatives of the [Canadian Health Leadership Network \(CHLNet\)](#), [Healthcare Excellence Canada](#), [Canadian Institute for Health Information](#), [Canada Health Infoway](#) and friends and/or members of the MacNaught and Taillon families.

Nominations are solicited widely across the Canadian health community and must be **received by April 17, 2026**. The award recipient will be invited to accept the M&T Award at the e-Health Conference in Toronto (travel and accommodation expenses to be covered). A \$1,500 bursary accompanies the award given to an emerging leader in health information/informatics and/or patient partner leader, as designated by the recipient.

The M&T award has been made possible by generous corporate and individual charitable contributions. Funding for this prestigious award is held in trust by Healthcare Excellence Canada. The M&T endowment was established to honour individuals who have made outstanding and lasting contributions to the advancement of excellence in Canadian healthcare and healthcare leadership. For further information <https://chl.net.ca/about-us>.

Nomination Form: 2026 MacNaught-Taillon Leadership Award

This document is confidential, once completed.

Candidate

Full Name:

Profession / Occupation:

Organization:

Email:

Nominator

Full Name:

Organization:

Email:

Two Persons Who Might Support This Nomination

Full Name 1:

Organization:

Email:

Full Name 2:

Organization:

Email:

Important – Please Provide the Following Information:

- ☐ Short, up to one page recommendation letter including the reason(s) for the nomination (on a separate page or in a covering letter)
- ☐ An up-to-date biography or resume of the candidate
- ☐ Completed nominee form as above

Closing Date: Friday April 17th, 2026

Please submit via email to the attention of: kgrimes@chlnet.ca