

Call for Nominations

Joe Abate Community Hero Award



— JOE ABATE —
**COMMUNITY
HERO AWARD**

DEADLINE: AUGUST 7, 2026

This award was created to honour individuals or businesses who exemplify unparalleled generosity and unwavering commitment to the better of their community. This award seeks to recognize the unsung heroes who selfless actions and dedication breathe life into the spirit of community.

This award is in honour of MPO Past President Joe Abate who passed away unexpectedly in 2024. Joe was an integral part of the industry for many years, having been a dedicated member of MPO since 2006. His unwavering commitment and passion for the meat industry and the association were evident throughout his tenure, leaving an indelible mark on our community.

The essence of the Community Hero Award lies in its celebration of individuals or businesses who go above and beyond to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around them. Whether through volunteering countless hours, supporting community organizations, or demonstrating exceptional acts of kindness, recipients of this award embody the true essence of communal support and solidarity.

Nominations must state the reasons why this individual is deserving of this recognition. The following examples may be used to support the nomination and provide a basic platform for evaluation:

- Description of individual
- Examples of a consistent commitment to supporting their local community
- Evidence of change, improvement, or support in the community as a result of their work
- Examples of this individual embodying Joe Abates values: dedication, warmth, generosity, leadership, and community service

Selection

The Board of Directors will review all nominations based on the information submitted.

Previous Recipients

2025: Richard & Ola Halenda, Halenda's Fine Foods

2024: In honour of Joe Abate

**NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO FRANCO NACCARATO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EMAIL: FRANCO@MEATPOULTRYON.CA**

