

# HALTON HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Halton Hills Public Library shortlisted as a nominee for the Minister's Award for Innovation

**HALTON HILLS, ON/** November 1, 2018 – The Halton Hills Public Library is thrilled to be shortlisted for the Minister's Award for Innovation alongside incredible nominees for its innovative Virtual Reality Program. This exciting program will improve the life, ability, and engagement of youth and older adult residents who wish to access digital resources.

As part of its outreach initiative, the Halton Hills Public Library launched the Virtual Reality program for individuals facing barriers due to physical, medical, and economic conditions. As a valuable resource in the community, the HHPL seeks to remove barriers for all individuals through its programs and resources allowing everyone to take part and succeed in all aspects of life and learning.

"We're so excited and fortunate to be recognized for this award," said Lee Puddephatt, Community Librarian. "It has been an incredible experience to improve and enhance the lives of youth and older adults."

This Ontario Public Library Service Award is granted once a year and recognizes successful new approaches that demonstrate a positive impact in a community and are of continued value to public libraries.

HHPL received an Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports' Improving Library Digital Services Grant. "This grant allowed us to purchase the technology to share with our community," said Jodie Mandarin, Youth Services Librarian.

The winners of the Minister's Award of Innovation will be announced at the 2019 Ontario Library Association's Super Conference on January 31.

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