



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE Y RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR FOCUSING ON STAFF
APPRECIATION AND ENGAGEMENT DURING COVID-19**

OTTAWA, February 23, 2022 – The YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital Region is honoured to be named one of only thirteen 5-Star Rewards and Recognition winners across Canada in 2022 by Canadian HR Reporter Magazine.

The Canadian HR Recorder is Canada's guide to human resources management and provides information on trends and issues and access to research and resources. The 5-Star Rewards and Recognition entry process is comprised of two steps: an employer submission followed by an employee survey. The survey asks employees to rate their employer across a range of metrics, and those organizations that achieve an overall satisfaction rating of at least 75 percent are recognized as 5-star awardees.

“We are absolutely thrilled to be recognized as a Canadian leader in employee rewards and recognition,” says Bob Gallagher, President and CEO at the YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital Region. “Ensuring staff feel appreciated is always important, but during COVID-19 it has been even more critical. We are really proud of how our staff have stepped up, especially those who have been on the front lines, helping keep our vital community services up and running under very challenging circumstances.”

In an environment of uncertainty and change, it is important that organizations adjust to meet the needs in the community and the needs of employees. Whether it is investing in technology to allow seamless remote work, focusing on safety and health protocols on site, or taking time to appreciate and thank employees for their dedication, the Y has focused attention on creating a workplace that supports its team members.

“The Y has always been a place for meaningful work experiences,” says Mr. Gallagher. “Not only because of the opportunities we offer, but because of why we’re here. When you measure success by the impact you have on your community, it adds a deeper sense of purpose to what you’re doing. By striving to improve our employee experience, we hope to make the Y a good place to work, while doing good work in the community.”

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The YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital offers a wide range of employment opportunities in a variety of roles including early childhood educators, fitness professionals, employment counsellors, newcomer specialists, housing program support, camp counsellors, and outdoor educators. For more information, please visit our website.

About the YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital Region

Founded in 1867, the YMCA-YWCA of the National Capital Region is a registered charity dedicated to building healthy communities. The organization is committed to nurturing the potential of children, teens and young adults, promoting healthy living and supporting vulnerable people within the community. The Y serves more than 90,000 people across the Ottawa region annually. A focus on inclusiveness and accessibility means people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities are served through all stages of life; and through its financial assistance programs, the Y is accessible to all. To learn more visit ymcaywca.ca.

-30-

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