



2017 CPAC Award (Grade 12)

Recipient: Victoria Chen



Victoria Chen is a first-year student in the Life Sciences program at the University of Toronto. She had an average of 96% in Grade 12 and a record of dedicated community service.

She has been living with a spinal cord injury for 15 years, which compromises the function of her lower extremities. Despite her disability, she enjoys life to the fullest through her academics, volunteerism, music and artwork.

She graduated in 2017 from Glenforest Secondary School with an IB Diploma. She was chosen by her teachers and peers as their Schulich Leader Nominee and elected to represent the Graduating Class as their Valedictorian.

Victoria has made significant contributions to the community through working with several non-for-profit organizations, especially Easter Seals Ontario. She was selected to be the 2015 Provincial Ambassador, and has been advocating for children with physical disabilities across the province at numerous fundraising events. In addition to giving speeches, she helped with pledges and even entertained the audience by playing piano and flute. Also a talented artist, she generously donated five of her oil paintings to be auctioned. And in 2015, she launched a self-directed charity plant sale, now boasting over 400 WeChat members, which has raised funds for Easter Seals Ontario, Camp Trillium and Camp Oochigeas.

Victoria is an exceptional young woman who takes her volunteer and social responsibilities very seriously. Her talents, accomplishments and community service have been recognized by Easter Seals Canada, which is currently profiling her in its national advertising campaign.

Please join me in congratulating **Victoria Chen**, the 2017 CPAC Award recipient for Grade 12.