

# 2018 YWCA TORONTO WOMEN OF DISTINCTION



## LYNN FACTOR *President's Award*

A resounding voice for children and youth, a fierce advocate for social justice and a remarkable philanthropist, Lynn Factor is a trail blazer. She presents with a perfect balance of expertise and social influence as she carves pathways to a safer world for children and girls in particular.

In her former work as a child welfare practitioner, Lynn developed an expertise in supporting children who have experienced sexual violence. She recognizes the potential impact of secondary trauma experienced by children navigating the court system. She stands firm in the understanding that our moral responsibility extends to all of our social systems – that children should not be traumatized by the very structures intended to protect them. Fuelled by her drive for justice, she now chairs the Sex Trafficking Advisory Committee at Covenant House – a community, collaborative approach to confront this disturbing social phenomenon that is a particular threat to vulnerable women and girls.

Lynn's leadership in matters of social justice is far-reaching. Her role as Past Chair of the Board of Directors at the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada has been lauded as exemplary, attested by the countless public accolades for her contributions. She currently sits

on the Faculty of Community Services Dean's Advisory Council at Ryerson University. Further, she works with Boost Child and Youth Advocacy Centre preparing child victims to testify in criminal court cementing her steadfast commitment to support better futures for children in Toronto. Our community is enriched by Lynn's advocacy for the most vulnerable children who have been victims of abuse, neglect and violence.

She is also an inspiration, leading by example through her social engagement and unprecedented levels of giving. Lynn and her husband, Sheldon Inwentash's philanthropic contributions to social work education have been marked with unparalleled generosity. The University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work bears their name – a fitting testimony to a woman who has devoted her career to improving the lives of vulnerable children and youth. Such contributions will translate into generations of social workers dedicated to advancing equity and justice in our communities.

  
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