



# 100 alumni

100 ALUMNI of ACHIEVEMENT

To celebrate 100 years of exceptional education, the university has partnered with the Wilfrid Laurier University Alumni Association to create a program to recognize 100 of our most exceptional Alumni of Achievement.

This distinguished group of 100 alumni represents a living legacy who inspire lives of leadership and purpose, and who also instill in Laurier graduates the courage to engage and challenge the world in all its complexity.

All members of the community were invited to submit nominations from among the university's nearly 80,000 alumni. After a lengthy and challenging deliberation process, 100 individuals were selected for the final list. The selection criteria revolved around the concept of leadership and purpose, with the understanding that we all show leadership by being actively involved in our personal and professional communities.

# Julie Hamilton Profile



## **Julie Hamilton**

Workplace Safety Activist  
1971, BA (Psychology)

Julie Hamilton is on a mission to improve workplace safety in North America. Her passion for the cause was founded in a deep personal tragedy, when her son Tim was killed on the job 12 years ago.

Tim was just 19 years old, working at a summer job and setting up a large tent for a corporate party. After the job was reviewed by an engineer, Tim followed instructions and raised the main pole from inside the tent, believing he was being guided to ensure the pole would not connect with overhead power lines. However, the electricity arched, killing Tim instantly. Despite Tim's death, the corporation held the party anyway.

In Canada, during 2009, there were nearly 800,000 claims reported to Workers' Compensation Board, including 939 workplace fatalities.

Since Tim's death, Hamilton has become a dedicated, passionate advocate to improve workplace safety. Trained as a teacher, she delivers emotional, powerful presentations to government, industry, special interest groups and students. Her talk, entitled "Missing Tim," focuses on personal attitude toward safety in the workplace and the need to remember that every decision has consequences and that every worker has a family.

Hamilton travels across North America, donating all speaking fees to the Tim Hamilton Endowment Fund, within the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada. So far, the Tim Hamilton Endowment Fund holds \$450,000.

Her husband, Bob, is also a 100 Alumni of Achievement recipient.

Other degrees: BEd, University of Toronto