

I am submitting this entry on behalf of my husband Ron Wong who is far too humble to ever enter on his own.

I know that there are many deserving Calgarians who are worthy of this honour, many of them have a much higher profile than Ron. Still, it feels good to know that someone will read this and understand what a stellar dad, coach and passionate hockey player he is.

We have two children. Tiana is 14 and plays ringette. Matthew is 12 and plays hockey. Ever since they have learned to skate, Ron has been there to take them to lessons, practices and games. It's never a burden and always a pleasure for him because he genuinely enjoys the sport and being with the children. He had to learn ringette from scratch so I've seen him take all the coaching courses, learn the plays, drills and the challenges of working with coaches, parents and especially teenage girls!

He always works with quiet dignity and respect. He is diligent and reliable. I especially enjoy watching his ability to analyze, always looking for away to help players improve as individuals and as a team.

He is currently an assistant coach for both our children's teams. He plays hockey once a week and helps to teach power skating to adults through Rex Tucker Hockey. Some of those participants have written letters or emails to Ron telling him how much he as helped them. Really, he just glows when he reads them. He's an engineer by profession but definitely a hockey nut in his spare time.

He didn't have an opportunity to play hockey in his youth but discovered it in university. He has done everything he can to grow and improve in these past 25 years or so. Even though he has reluctance to go outside in cold weather, he faithfully builds a rink in our backyard each year (weather permitting). I am out there helping him set up but he's the one who lovingly shovels and resurfaces the rink once it's in, using a heat gun to help defrost the pipes when required. He has even designed our basement with an area near the door so you can put on your skates on inside then head on out to the rink, a mere few steps away!

As I type this, Ron is at ringette practice with our daughter. This is how I can sneak in this application.

In closing, if you were to select Ron, we, his family, would proudly be standing on the sidelines on December 15th. We would be watching a guy who never seeks the limelight but deserves to be in this one. Born and raised in Calgary, he epitomizes good sportsmanship and volunteerism, things that this city is known for and we couldn't be more proud of him.

- Ron W.