

External Volunteer Awards – Adult/Youth/Seniors

National Volunteer Awards

Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award

Nominations are accepted throughout the year.

Created in 1995, the Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award recognizes living Canadians and permanent residents who have made a significant, sustained, unpaid contribution to their community, in Canada or abroad. Often working behind the scenes, these individuals volunteer their time and efforts to help their fellow citizens. The award also brings to light the example set by volunteers, whose compassion and engagement are a part of our Canadian character. Members of the public are invited to share their stories about deserving Canadians by submitting a nomination to the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General.

For details, visit the [Governor General’s website](#). There is no deadline for submissions.

Prime Minister’s Volunteer Awards

Nominations opened in late 2012, closed March 1, 2013

The Prime Minister’s Volunteer Awards recognize the exceptional contributions of volunteers, businesses and not-for-profits in improving communities across Canada. The program consists of 17 awards. Two are national awards and 15 are regional. The awards program aims to inspire all Canadians to get involved in their communities.

For program details, visit the [Prime Minister’s website](#). Nominations opened in late 2012, closed March 1, 2013

Provincial - Alberta Volunteer Awards

Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards

Nomination opens May 1, 2013.
Nominations close Sep 16, 2013

The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards recognize extraordinary Albertans whose volunteer efforts have contributed to the well-being of their community and fellow community members. Six awards, two in each category of **youth, adult and senior** are presented annually on or around International Volunteer Day, December 5.

The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards Program is an integral part of government's commitment to Alberta’s voluntary sector. Seeking out ways to pay tribute to volunteers is part of the

Government of Alberta's way of acknowledging and thanking our volunteers whose generous efforts contribute to the vibrant quality of life Albertans so enjoy.

2013 Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards nomination forms will be available May 1, 2013

Award Criteria

Albertans, who meet the following criteria, are eligible for a Stars of Alberta Volunteer Award:

- Exemplifies the spirit of community service
- Demonstrates exemplary initiative, leadership, and creativity in his/her service to others
- Serves as a role model for others in his/her community
- Inspires others to engage in volunteer service
- Improves the overall quality of life of fellow Albertans and community as a whole

www. <http://www.culture.alberta.ca/voluntarysector/stars/>

Great Kids Award

Deadline for nomination: Dec 5, 2012
Award Ceremony March 3, 2013.
Confirm 2013 nomination dates!

Honour **children and youth** who make a difference at home and in the community. Recipients serve as informal advisors to Alberta Children's Services by providing their perspective on a range of issues affecting young Albertans. Any Albertan can nominate a Great Kid. Winners are selected by a panel of MLAs and community members. Nominees must: be a resident of Alberta who is 5-18 years old; demonstrate considerable effort in school; contribute to the community through volunteer service and to the quality of home life by willingly assuming responsibilities within the family.

Information: (780) 415-0085; www.child.alberta.ca

2014 Great Kids Awards

16 children and youth from around Alberta will be recognized for their outstanding community efforts and leadership at the 14th Annual Great Kids Awards. Stay tuned for the event date in 2014.

- [Meet the 2013 Great Kids and learn about their achievements](#)

What is the Great Kids Award?

Alberta is home to thousands of kids who do great things every day for themselves and others – at home, at school and in the community.



The Great Kids Award was first launched in 1999 as a celebration of children and youth who impact their communities in a positive way.

Albertans are encouraged to nominate a young person for their determination, generosity, compassion, courage and strong spirit.

Who can be a nominator? Any resident of Alberta can nominate a Great Kid – parents, teachers, coaches, pastors, social workers, neighbours...even peers!

Look around your community...seek out and celebrate the amazing young people we have in Alberta!

Keep posted for when nominations open this year!

For more information, please contact the Great Kids Award Team by [email](#) or by phone at 780-415-0085.

Look around your community...seek out and celebrate the amazing young people we have in Alberta!

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Other – Alberta Awards

Volunteer Citizen of the Year

March 31 st deadline

Direct Energy and Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association (AWNA)

The Volunteer Citizen of the Year Award is open to citizens who reside within a community served by an AWNA member newspaper. Applicants can either self-nominate or be nominated by another individual or group. Nominations should be no longer than 750 words in length and detail the specific contribution the individual or group has made to the local community through improving the quality of life for fellow citizens. The nominations also need to profile the designated organization and how that organization would use the \$5,000 donation.

For more information about the program, please contact Jeff Lanthier at 905-943-6260 or jeff.lanthier@directenergy.com

Recognition and reward

The Volunteer Citizen of the Year Award is an extension of Direct Energy's employee volunteer programs that encourages company employees to volunteer their time and energy to causes and organizations in their local community. The award itself will consist of:

- \$1,000 cash prize to the winner;
- \$5,000 cash grant to the winner's organization/cause of choice in their community;
- Recognition of the winner's achievement through a commemorative award, article and photo to be published in AWNA newspapers across Alberta;
- \$1,000 cash grant to the four semi-finalists' organization/cause of choice in their communities;
- Recognition of the four semi-finalists through a commemorative award, article and photo to be published in their respective AWNA community papers.

Nomination forms must be submitted online or sent to Maurizia Hinse at the Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association by **March 31, 2013**.

AFP National Philanthropy Day Award

Submit by early July for November awards ceremony

Edmonton:

(Association of Fundraising Professionals (www.afpedmonton.ca))

Calgary:

(there is also an AFP chapter in Calgary, however they do not list their nomination process on their website as of aug 14/13...check back (<http://afpcalgary.afpnet.org/>))

Who:

The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) is the professional community of fundraisers; all of us – donors, volunteers, foundations and corporations – represent the community of philanthropy from education to healthcare, the environment, and the arts, to name a few. It is critical that the community of philanthropy work together - to engage giving and volunteering. Founded in 1960, AFP advances philanthropy through its 30,000 members in 222 chapters throughout the world.

Why:

National Philanthropy Day is an annual awards luncheon held to honour and acknowledge outstanding individuals, foundations, corporations, fundraising volunteers and non-profit organizations who contribute time, talents, financial support and other resources to the philanthropic community in Edmonton and beyond.

How do I nominate someone?

A nomination is a great way to recognize those people and groups that make your organization successful. Award submissions are usually accepted with a deadline of early July for the November awards ceremony.

What are the sectors?

There are a number of different sectors in which you can recognize an individual or organization:

Arts and Culture

Recognizes people and groups who have impacted the arts and culture community through acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent

Education

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to ensure our communities can use knowledge to meet emerging needs

Environment

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to better our environment

Health

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to better their community and the health of others

Outreach

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to ensure better communities outside Edmonton

Public Service

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to ensure that the services that enrich our community continue to grow and flourish

Social Services

Recognizes people and groups who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to ensure that the immediate needs of vulnerable populations within our community are being met

Youth

Recognizes youth and youth groups, under the age of 23, who have engaged in acts of charity and in giving of their time and talent to better our community and, by example, encourages other youth to create or join in other philanthropic activities

How will the nominees be recognized?

Nominees will be celebrated and recognized at the National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon. At the luncheon, we will celebrate the nominees by sharing their stories in a paper program provided to each individual at the luncheon, as well as during the luncheon program. We will also recognize their achievements with a National Philanthropy Day Award.

What are the expectations of the nominator and nominees?

The expectations are simple – be a part of the celebrations! This means that attendance of both the nominator and nominee is required at the Nominee Reception and the National Philanthropy Day luncheon.

As the nominator, it is your responsibility to:

- notify the nominee of the nomination and gain their consent to put their name forward
- communicate the event to your nominee and ensure they will be available to attend
- purchase tickets to the National Philanthropy Day Luncheon to host your nominee(s)

Northwest Territories

Nominations open January close near end of March

Outstanding Volunteer Award

This awards program recognizes the important contribution volunteers make in the Northwest Territories. Since 1991, awards have been presented to individuals and organizations nominated by the public for their volunteer work. By drawing attention to these volunteers, the awards also highlight the role that all Northwest Territories volunteers play.

Every January, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs calls for nominations for the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards Program in order to recognize the voluntary achievements and contributions made by volunteers in Northwest Territories communities.

Who is a volunteer?

You probably already know a volunteer, a friend or neighbour, who is always there ready to help someone. For example, someone who:

- raises money for school activities;
- helps in the school;
- provides food for the needy;
- preserves and teaches their culture;
- helps those who are less able to take care of themselves; or
- cuts wood, shovels walkways, helps with reading.

How do we say Thank You?

Volunteers improve our quality of life and strive to make our communities better places to live. We want to thank them for their work. The Outstanding Volunteer Awards is a great way to say thank you to the selfless individuals who give their time to our communities.

Territorial winners receive \$500.00 to give to a volunteer organization of their choice as well as a certificate recognizing them for their efforts in building our communities through volunteering.

How does the Awards Program work?

Anybody can nominate an individual or a group whose voluntary work strengthens and enriches northern life.

There are four categories:

- Youth
- Individual
- Elder
- Group

You can nominate someone online or download a nomination form.

How to Nominate

The nomination form requires details about the volunteer's type of achievement, type of involvement and level of impact on the community.

Type of achievement: Describe the significant contributions or participation made by the volunteer or group designed to improve the quality of life.

Type of involvement: Describe the volunteer's participation, or if nominating a group, the work performed by the group.

Level of impact on the community: Describe the ways the community has benefited from the volunteer or group's work.

Please include any other information you believe is relevant.

The nomination form can be filled out online, or printed and mailed, or faxed back to your MACA Regional office or to the Sport, Recreation, and Youth Division office in Yellowknife.

Judging Criteria

The evaluation guideline includes, but is not limited to:

- The duration (minimum of 100 hours) and impact of the volunteerism;
- The number of years, months, and approximate number of volunteer hours the nominee committed to the activity;
- The uniqueness and inclusiveness (involving others) of the nominee's contributions and commitments;
- Their leadership role in the community or organization; and
- The challenges and/or barriers the nominee had to overcome in order to achieve their goal.

YUKON

The deadline for nominations for the Commissioner's Awards is March 30 and October 31

The Commissioner's Award for Public/Volunteer Service

This award honours an outstanding **individual** who has made a significant volunteer contribution to the Yukon.

Youth Recognition Award

The Youth Recognition Award recognizes **youth 18 years and under** who have made positive volunteer contributions to improve the community.

Eligibility

Anyone who has made a significant contribution to Yukon. Even citizens who reside outside Yukon will be considered for the awards.

The Awards Committee decides who will receive the award. The committee includes the Commissioner and people from across Yukon.

[Download the application form](#)  1.3 MB

How to Nominate Someone

- Your nomination letter must be in writing and have 2 signatures.
- This letter should describe in detail the reason for the nomination.
- Attach a completed [Nomination Form](#)  1.3 MB to your letter (Nomination forms can also be picked up at the Commissioner's Office at 1098, 1st Ave. in Whitehorse).
- Attach 2-3 letters of support. These letters should describe the impact of the nominee's actions. An impact statement from the person who received the service is strongly recommended. The best letters of support come directly from people affected by what the nominee has done.
- You cannot nominate yourself, your spouse or a member of your immediate family.

Send all nomination documents to:

Commissioner's Advisory Committee
1098 First Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 0C1

Email: commissioner@gov.yk.ca

Fax: 867-393-6201

Phone: 667-5121 or 1-800-661-0408

All nominations will be acknowledged and held in confidence.

Confidentiality: To avoid disappointment and to respect the privacy of the people consulted, the Commissioner's Office keeps nominations confidential, and we ask that the nominators and others involved do the same.

Volunteers contribute almost 100,000 hours to Alberta's parks system annually. They bring talent, enthusiasm and new ideas that enrich our program and help us achieve our goals. We recognize and appreciate the efforts of every volunteer. However, we present achievement awards each year to celebrate special **individuals and organizations** who exceed expectations and inspire us all.

Volunteer Award Nominations

There are so many volunteers and volunteer initiatives throughout the province, we need we need your help. Tell us about the individuals and organizations who go above and beyond volunteering in Alberta's parks system. Nomination submissions are encouraged from anyone. To nominate, please

- Review the award descriptions below.
- Complete the [nomination form](#).
- **Submit by the nomination(s) by May 15.**
- Both the successful nominees and their nominators will be invited to the awards banquet.

Parks and Protected Areas Achievement Award

- Presented to an individual.
- Recognizing a special or significant achievement for a park, protected area, staff, customers, project or program from volunteer efforts.

Parks and Protected Areas Junior Achievement Award

- Presented to a youth.
- Recognizing volunteer activities affecting a park, protected area, staff, customers, project or program in a special or significant way.

Facility Enhancement Award

- Presented to an individual or organization.
- Recognizing significant contributions to maintenance or enhancement of park facility infrastructure like trails, signs and buildings.

Parks and Protected Areas Junior Achievement Award

- Presented to a youth.
- Recognizing volunteer activities affecting a park, protected area, staff, customers, project or program in a special or significant way.

Partnership Appreciation Award

- Presented to a co-operating association, partnering agency or group.
- Recognizing considerable contributions to park programs, services or facilities.

Outstanding Group Steward Award

- Presented to a group or organization.
- Recognizing recent efforts, contributed considerably to the preservation and/or appreciation of a protected area (e.g. time, special project).

Green Shield Award

- Presented to an individual or organization.
- Recognizing significant contributions to preservation and conservation of land, water, ecosystems and/or the plants and animals that that depend on them.
- Nominees have invested extensive time, often spanning many years.
- Created in 2001 to honour the International Year of the Volunteer.