

# CELEBRATING CANADIANS

WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



PRIME MINISTER'S  
VOLUNTEER AWARDS



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Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

The background of the entire page is a close-up, high-angle shot of a blue fabric, possibly silk or satin, with deep folds and highlights that create a sense of texture and depth. The lighting is dramatic, with some areas being very bright and others in shadow. At the top and bottom of the page, there are horizontal bars: a thin yellow bar on top, a wider red bar below it, and another thin yellow bar at the very bottom.

**MAKING  
CANADA  
STRONGER**

[www.pm.gc.ca/awards](http://www.pm.gc.ca/awards)

**The Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards (PMVA) have been created to recognize the exceptional contributions of volunteers, local businesses and innovative not-for-profit organizations in improving the well-being of families and their communities.**

**The awards highlight best practices in community leadership and encourage partnerships across sectors. The goal of the awards program is to inspire Canadians from all walks of life to find new ways of making a difference in their communities.**



## **AWARD CATEGORIES**

The Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards program consists of a total of 17 awards at the regional and national levels.

### **REGIONAL AWARDS**

Fifteen awards will be presented, three for each of the five regions across Canada:

- Atlantic (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island)
- Quebec
- Ontario
- Prairies (Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan)
- British Columbia and the North (British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon)

Three awards for each region will be presented, one for each of the following:

- **Community Leader**—to recognize individuals or groups who have taken a lead role in developing solutions to local problems;
- **Business Leader**—to recognize businesses that demonstrate social responsibility in their business practices; and
- **Social Innovator**—to recognize not-for-profit organizations that demonstrate innovation in addressing social challenges.

Regional award recipients will be eligible to identify a not-for-profit organization to receive a \$5,000 grant.

## NATIONAL AWARDS

There are two national awards:

- **Emerging Leader**—to recognize new volunteers who are helping to build stronger communities through exceptional voluntary leadership, and have made a positive difference in their community over a short period of time (generally for a period of no more than three years); and
- **Lifelong Achievement**—to recognize individuals who have made a difference in their communities by volunteering and providing leadership over the course of their lives (generally for a period of at least 20 years).

National award recipients will be eligible to identify a not-for-profit organization to receive a \$10,000 grant.

## WHO CAN BE NOMINATED?

Nominees can be individuals or groups; businesses; or not-for-profit organizations. Nominators may be any person or group with direct knowledge of the nominee's contribution.

Complete nomination guidelines and forms will be available online. Please check the website for information.

## ELIGIBILITY

Nominees in all award categories must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Individual nominees must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents or protected persons within the meaning of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, and at least 18 years of age.
- Eligible organizations must be Canadian (e.g. registered not-for-profits or businesses registered in Canada).
- All nominees must have contributed to addressing social challenges in their community.
- Political and public advocacy work are excluded.

Examples of potential nominees for each award are available by visiting [www.pm.gc.ca/awards](http://www.pm.gc.ca/awards)

## **ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

A three-step process will be used to assess award nominations. All nominations will be reviewed by the PMVA Secretariat to ensure they meet eligibility criteria. Representatives of award category areas from across the country will review eligible nominations and develop a list of top-ranked nominations. Top-ranked nominations will then be evaluated by a National Advisory Committee that will recommend the award winners.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Award recipients will be announced each year at an award ceremony, the first of which will be held in early 2012.

## **RECOGNITION**

In addition to attending the award ceremony, award recipients and their achievements will be profiled.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To find out more about the Prime Minister's Volunteer Awards, including the call for nominations, the nomination process and the criteria, please visit [www.pm.gc.ca/awards](http://www.pm.gc.ca/awards), call **1-877-824-0434** or e-mail [info-pmva@hrsdc.gc.ca](mailto:info-pmva@hrsdc.gc.ca).

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