

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S LEADERSHIP FOR ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AWARD



"I am very honoured to work with the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) and its fund development partner, the Recreation for Life Foundation on these awards and I encourage all Albertans to consider nominating someone who is working to keep their community healthy, active and a great place to be."

- Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong

The Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award is a special legacy initiative connected with The Honourable Norman Kwong's honorary patronage of the *Alberta Active Communities* initiative.

This province-wide awards program recognizes the achievements of teams and individuals who demonstrate the very best of active community leadership; engaging citizens in planning, and using leadership to get more people, more active, more often. These leaders work to create places, spaces and opportunities for people to be active and engaged in their communities, using recreation as a catalyst. The result of dynamic and transformational leadership is communities that are inclusive, engaging and active; places where people want to live, work and play!

The following five categories have been established to recognize the scope of leadership that is required to get people working together for a more active and healthy community.

- Community Leader Award
- Group Spirit of Community Leadership Award
- Community Leader of Tomorrow Award
- Elected Community Leader Award
- Corporate Community Leader Award

Professional development bursaries of \$5,000 will be awarded to the recipients of the Community Leader, Group Spirit of Community Leadership, and Community Leader of Tomorrow awards. Recipients will be recognized at the inaugural awards gala at Government House in Edmonton on April 23, 2009.

Please take a few moments to look at the nomination package. We recognize your time is at a premium and have made efforts to make the process as simple as possible. If you have questions in completing the nomination, please contact Carol Petersen by telephone 780-415-1747, or by e-mail cpetersen@arpaonline.ca.

BACKGROUND

Alberta Active Communities was born out of the desire to address an urgent need in Alberta. Epidemic levels of obesity, chronic disease and depression are all linked to physical inactivity. Most efforts to address inactivity have focused on the individual and have not been entirely effective. A more community-wide approach to support and encourage physical activity is needed. *Alberta Active Communities* engages citizens in designing strategies that will be relevant in getting more people, more active and engaged. The awards are a way of acknowledging that leadership IS fundamental in engaging citizens AND developing community solutions.

Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong is a leader that exemplifies what *Alberta Active Communities* strives to achieve. The Honourable Norman Kwong is supporting the *Alberta Active Communities* initiative through his role as honorary patron AND has initiated the Leadership for Active Communities Award program to

encourage and support leadership for communities into the future. His Honour believes in sport, recreation and balanced lifestyles and recognizes it is leadership that make this possible in our communities.

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED?

Any Alberta resident, group or corporate entity that is inspirational in engaging the community toward positive outcomes that build a more active community is eligible for nomination.

WHO CAN SUBMIT A NOMINATION?

- *Community Leader Award* - a member of the community can nominate a suitable candidate for this award or it may be self initiated.
- *Group Spirit of Community Leadership Award* - a member of the community can nominate a suitable candidate for this award or it may be self initiated.
- *Community Leader of Tomorrow Award* - a member of the community can nominate a suitable candidate for this award or it may be self initiated.
- *Elected Community Leader Award* – an individual or organization within the voluntary or government sector may nominate suitable candidates for this award.
- *Corporate Community Leader Award* - an individual or organization within the voluntary or government sector may nominate suitable candidates for this award.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION?

1. Select a category from the award list that is most appropriate to the individual or organization you wish to recognize.
2. To make a nomination, complete the nomination form (attached).
3. Nominators are advised to work with nominees, when nominating an individual or an organization other than your own, so that information and details submitted are accurate and complete.
4. Prepare a maximum two-page submission that describes why the nominee deserves to be recognized through the Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award. This submission should identify how the nominee demonstrates the Key Indicators/Characteristics of exemplary community leadership as described in this package.
5. Obtain three letters of support outlining the reasons this nominee deserves this special recognition, from other individuals or organizations in the community.
6. Include any relevant materials (posters, brochures, news clippings, etc.), which support the nomination of this individual or organization.

Please note:

- An individual or organization may be nominated for awards in more than one category; however, a separate nomination package must be completed for each nomination and must include a separate package of supporting materials.
- In addition to the written nomination, please submit an electronic copy of your submission to Carol Petersen at the address indicated on the nomination form.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Selection Committee will initially be made up of members of the Board of Directors of the Recreation for Life Foundation and individual ARPA members.

NOMINATION CRITERIA AND KEY INDICATORS OF LEADERSHIP

The Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award recognizes the achievements of the organizations and individuals who are leading their communities' increased citizen engagement, and higher levels of recreation participation leading to healthier people and communities. Five Community Leadership awards will be awarded annually to recognize and celebrate individuals and organizations whose contributions to the community are an inspiration to us all.

Community leadership takes vision, commitment and strength of character. It enables one to take effective action not only within his or her organization, but also within the community as a whole. These leaders contribute to a stronger, healthier future. Eligibility for awards is limited to residents or organizations working within the Province of Alberta.

The Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award Nominee:

- Understands, demonstrates and exerts positive influence in the community by building trusting relationships.
- Utilizes a proactive, holistic, broad community approach in their work.
- Places a priority on engaging and cultivating community ownership and responsibility.
- Has the ability to work proactively to promote recreation and parks as services that deliver essential benefits to the community.
- Applies community development planning strategies
- Practices ongoing personal and professional growth and development.
- Enhances citizen engagement in community planning and action that have resulted in greater opportunities to be active in recreation and physical activity.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Community Leader Award

This award will be presented to an individual who has been inspirational in engaging others, acting as a catalyst to increase citizen involvement in planning for increased participation in active living, recreation and sport. This individual is a champion for working with others to create opportunities to get more people, more active, more often.

Group Spirit of Community Leadership Award

This award will be presented to an Alberta based organization, committee, coalition or informal group of three or more citizens whose mission addresses leadership for active communities in Alberta and demonstrates community leadership that results in increased citizen engagement, higher levels of participation in recreation for healthier, balanced lifestyles. This group should represent diverse sectors of the community including recreation, social services, health, childcare, service clubs, agriculture, education, etc.

Community Leader of Tomorrow Award

This award will be presented to an Alberta resident 30 years of age or younger, who has demonstrated the qualities and competencies that are expected to make him or her a future community leader. Nominees for this award have, in a relatively short period of time, had an impact on the community as a result of their

exceptional professional and/or personal achievements. This individual has demonstrated leadership in using recreation and parks as a catalyst in creating healthier and more active communities. This individual is not in a senior position within their organization or in the community.

Elected Community Leader Award

This award will be presented to a local, provincial or federal elected official who has contributed to the development of active community leadership by:

- Promoting and supporting recreation and parks as a catalyst for healthier and more active communities.
- Supporting community development strategies to enhance active lifestyles.

Corporate Community Leader Award

This award will be presented to a business/corporate entity that has contributed to the development of active community leadership by:

- Demonstrating tangible commitment through corporate social responsibility.
- Promoting and supporting recreation and parks as a catalyst for healthier and more active communities.
- Supporting community development strategies toward more active living.

This awards program is managed through the Recreation for Life Foundation in association with the Lieutenant Governor's office and the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association.

Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities AWARD 2009 Nomination Form

Deadline for submission: January 30, 2009



Award Categories – Please check the category for this nomination

- Community Leader Award
- Group Spirit of Community Leadership Award
- Community Leader of Tomorrow Award
- Elected Community Leader Award
- Corporate Community Leader Award

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of individual/group being nominated: _____

(For an organization please provide the name of the key contact or leader)

Daytime phone of Nominee: _____ *E-mail address of Nominee:* _____

Mailing Address of Nominee: _____

City: _____ *Province:* _____ *Postal Code:* _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: _____ *Date:* _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name: _____

Daytime phone of Nominator: _____ *E-mail address of Nominator:* _____

Mailing address of Nominator: _____

City: _____ *Province:* _____ *Postal Code:* _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR: _____ *Date:* _____

Note: Please make sure the appropriate supporting material is attached.

NOMINATION PACKAGE CHECKLIST

Your nomination package must include the following:

- Nomination Form
- Two-Page Submission about the nominee
- Three letters of support
- Other relevant material (posters, brochures, news clippings etc.)

Please mail/deliver nomination no later than 4:00 pm, Friday January 30, 2009 to:

**Lieutenant Governor's Award Committee
Recreation for Life Foundation
11759 Groat Road
Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3K6
Email: cpetersen@arpaonline.ca**

Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award

Frequently Asked Questions

Q.1. My daughter's coach goes beyond what we would expect and contributes a lot to the community. Would she be a good candidate for one of these awards?

A.1. Coaches and activity leaders play a vital role in contributing to "active communities" however they are generally recognized through other awards/initiatives. Additionally the Lieutenant Governor's Leadership for Active Communities Award is designed more to recognize those who are responsible for the broader community action and change that makes our communities places where all can participate in active and healthy lifestyles. The specific criteria for each category will help you determine whether or not this coach would be an appropriate nominee.

Q.2. I see that all of the awards have community in the title but I don't see a category for a community to be recognized. Can I nominate my community?

A.2. While the focus of this award is definitely to recognize communities that have gone the extra mile to make sure people are supported to be active and involved, it is the individuals and groups **leading** these communities who we want to recognize – the people who involve others and develop strategies to make their communities active, vibrant and supportive of active lifestyles.

If your community is active and involved, ask who it is that makes this possible in your community. There are five categories for nominations. Is it a grassroots group that spearheads initiatives? An elected official who is passionate and supportive of this type of change?

Q.3. In addition to the recognition of this prestigious award, I understand that a number of the award recipients receive professional development bursaries. What is this and what can it be used for?

A.3. The recipients of the Community Leader, Group Spirit of Community Leadership and the Community Leader of Tomorrow awards will each receive a \$5,000 professional development bursary to expand their knowledge in relation to Community Leadership and Active Communities. The bursary provided to the Group Spirit recipient is intended for a group/community learning opportunity.

Q.4. I have in mind an initiative/person who I think is worthy of recognition under this award however, I'm not sure which category would be most appropriate?

A.4. Focus on what has been accomplished in your community and why. Then ask yourself who was the leader(s) who made it possible? Look for the community leader(s) who is a catalyst for involving or engaging others.

If it is a group that made things more active in your community you can nominate the group, however, if there really is someone who stands out in initiating action, they can be nominated under one of the individual categories.

You may nominate in more than one category if you feel the nomination fits.

Q.5. Youth are the future of our communities. How do we recognize the efforts of young people who take initiative to make our community more active?

A.5. The Community Leader of Tomorrow category was created to recognize those involved in community activities who show promise as community leaders and have already made some impact in the community in terms of their contributions. Although not limited to the age bracket this category hopes to recognize those 25 and under.

Q.6. I know a community leader who has helped create a strategy to keep our school open. I think that this person should be recognized for their leadership because of the impact on the education of our children. Would they qualify for an award?

A.6. While definitely commendable, it does not sound as if it directly applies because it is not focused on getting the community more active. However, if this person has created a broad strategy to enhance use of the school by adding community activities, encouraging walk to school programs and keeping neighborhood families active and connected, then this person would be a very appropriate candidate.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to send a note to Carol Petersen at cpetersen@arpaonline.ca or call 780.415.1747