

Pat McDonald Distinguished Community Involvement Award Criteria Form

Purpose Established (2000) in memory of Pat McDonald to recognize Public Works professionals who are also leaders in their community. To encourage Public Works professionals to become active leaders in their community. To instill public trust through recognition of outstanding community leadership by Public Works professionals. To set the example for other Public Works professionals to emulate.

Eligibility

1. Be an active member of the OPWA.
2. Be an active leader in the community, demonstrated through volunteering significant time and/or resources to work with charitable organizations; community service groups; or has participated in significant community projects or programs which improve the quality of life in the community.
3. Provide a positive role model for other Public Works professionals.

Nomination Process Nominations may be made by the OPWA; any of its branches; individual OPWA members; community organization, or public agency. Documentation or verifiable evidence of both professional recognition and community leadership must be included with the nomination form. Nominations of Individual Awards should be made by the managing public agency or OPWA chapter or branches.

For any issues with submission, please contact info@opwa.ca

Selection The Awards Committee reviews the nominations and undertakes to select one candidate annually for receipt of the award. The Awards Committee may seek the advice and counsel of the Board of Directors in making its determination. The award need not be given in any year that the Awards Committee or Board of Directors deems that there are insufficient nominations to create meaningful competition or where there are no outstanding candidates.

Deadline March 6th, 2026 to be eligible.

Presentation For the winning submissions, designated representatives from the public agency, contractor and consultant (one each) will be presented with a framed certificate at the annual National Public Works Week Event.

This award was created to recognize individuals within the Public Works profession who perpetuate the spirit and unselfish devotion and commitment to one's community that was exemplified by Pat McDonald during her lifetime. Pat volunteered much of her adult life to work with those less fortunate, the elderly, the physically and mentally challenged, children with learning disabilities, as well as minor hockey, girls baseball and figure skating associations. Pat's affiliation with APWA spanned many years during which she was active in organizing the Ontario Chapter Spouses Program at the Annual APWA Congress and Exposition. Her memory and commitment to the needs of others will always remain entrenched in this Award.