

Purpose

To recognize an individual, team, or organization for the development, management and implementation of a creative idea, device, process or system that enhances the delivery of public works services to the public. A technical innovation involves materials, design, and equipment.

Eligibility

Anyone actively involved in the public works profession is eligible, OPWA membership is not required.

Nomination Process

Nominations of projects should be made by the managing public agency or OPWA chapter or branches. Digital submissions shall be sent to Adam Lachhman at adam.lachhman@york.ca. Please ensure you have confirmation that the nomination has been received.

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

Selection

The following criteria are used in the selection process:

1. Each nominated innovation is judged on its effect upon the provision of goods and services to the public. It can be an innovation in the process itself or in the materials, design, equipment, administration, management training, procurement of, etc., that improves, informs or educates the delivery of public services and improving the quality of life. A project can be nominated for its innovative concepts or methods.
2. The innovation must be a proven success. It must have had a positive and important effect on, improving the quality of, or reduce the cost of delivery of public works goods and services. Innovation is the implementation of new methods and new technologies. It is not merely an idea that has merit and may be successful in the future.
3. The innovation must be a significant advance, not just a natural evolution of existing methods, common sense or good practice.
4. The innovation must be documented and presentable. Innovators, their teams and/or their agencies/ employers must disclose sufficient information about the innovation to allow documentation for the Awards Committee.

The Awards Committee reviews the nominations and selects the award winners.

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.