

Deborah Liske

Subject: FW: Announcing the British Columbia Reconciliation Award
Attachments: image002.png; image004.jpg; image006.jpg; BCReconciliationAward-Award_Information.pdf; BCReconciliationAward-NominationPacket.pdf; BCReconciliationAward-Resources.pdf; BCReconciliationAward-SocialMediaGraphic.jpg

From: "Brownridge, Jermy FIN:EX" <Jermy.Brownridge@gov.bc.ca>
Date: November 18, 2020 at 11:57:09 AM PST
To: Barb Desjardins <Barbara.Desjardins@esquimalt.ca>
Cc: crdboard@crd.bc.ca
Subject: Announcing the British Columbia Reconciliation Award

Hello,

It is my great privilege to share with you a letter from the Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and Judith Sayers, President, Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, and BC Achievement Foundation Board Member, announcing the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award.

On behalf of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, I sincerely hope this initiative inspires well deserved recognition of individuals or organizations from your network or community.

Sincerely,

Jermy Brownridge
Private Secretary and Executive Director
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

November 18, 2020

Barbara Desjardins
Mayor
Township of Esquimalt
1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

Dear Mayor:

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, in partnership with the BC Achievement Foundation, is honoured to announce the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award, recognizing individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts.

This award celebrates the promise of a shared path to reconciliation through the incredible work of leaders from all over British Columbia, whose commitment to recognizing past injustices and healing those wounds will lead us all to a

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT		
For Information:		
<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council	
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RECEIVED: NOV 19 2020		
Referred: <i>Rachel</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> For Action	<input type="checkbox"/> For Response	<input type="checkbox"/> COTW
<input type="checkbox"/> For Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/> IC

brighter future. A selection committee for the BC Reconciliation Award will include representation by Indigenous Elders, BC First Nations leadership and government partners.

The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, is deeply committed to strengthening the ever-evolving relationship between the Crown and Indigenous peoples. This commitment includes her participation in the actions that further reconciliation and her support of endeavours that promote truth and understanding, including this new award.

The BC Achievement Foundation has several established programs honouring excellence and inspiring achievement throughout British Columbia, including the Indigenous Business Award and the Fulmer Award in First Nations Art. It is the hope of Judith Sayers, BC Achievement Foundation board member, that this award will not only recognize the truths of past wrongs but will also showcase examples of how to make things right, and inspire others to follow.

Consider your community and the efforts of the Elders, leaders, and neighbours who strive to further reconciliation. The nominations process is open to any individuals and organizations of Indigenous and non-Indigenous identity who have shown exemplary dedication to asserting truth and reconciliation initiatives. We encourage you to nominate those brightest among us.

Reconciliation must take root in our hearts, within families, between generations, and throughout our communities. We look forward to supporting this award and its deeply meaningful goal of building our relationships with each other across cultures and social barriers.

As leaders in our province, we humbly ask you to help spread the word in your community to nominate an individual or organization today using the BC Reconciliation Award nomination form on the [BC Community Achievement Foundation website](#). The nomination period will close on January 15, 2021.

Please find attached a graphic for sharing on social media, a package of resources for nominating, and information about the BC Reconciliation Award.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Janet Austin
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Judith Sayers
President, Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council
BC Achievement Foundation Board Member



British Columbia Reconciliation Award

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, in partnership with the BC Achievement Foundation, is pleased to announce the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award. This award recognizes individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of British Columbia, or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts.

The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, has made Reconciliation one of the key themes of her mandate. This includes participation in promotion of public awareness of the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

“As the Crown’s representative in British Columbia, I have a responsibility to show leadership in furthering the cause of reconciliation. I am deeply honoured for this opportunity to recognize the exemplary individuals and organizations who advance reconciliation in our province,” said Austin. “Reconciliation must take root in our hearts, within families, between generations, and throughout our communities. I look forward to supporting this award and its deeply meaningful goal of building our relationships with each other across cultures and social barriers.”

The BC Achievement Foundation has several established programs honouring excellence and inspiring achievement throughout British Columbia, including the Indigenous Business Award and the Fulmer Award in First Nations Art.

"Reconciliation builds relationships and bridges the gap between two worlds through the efforts of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. By recognizing the truths of past wrongs and showcasing examples of how to make things right, others will be inspired to follow," said BC Achievement Foundation board member Judith Sayers. "The British Columbia Reconciliation Award will celebrate innovative and empowering ways to embark on this journey, designed and decided by Indigenous peoples, allowing them to thrive while making the world a better place."

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award draws inspiration from the work of the Honourable Steven Point, 28th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and a founder of the Award. His hand-carved red cedar canoe, Shxwxitostel, currently on display at the BC Legislature buildings, was created as a symbol of reconciliation, with the understanding that “we are all in the same canoe” and must “paddle together” to move forward.

“It is a very proud moment for me to witness the launch of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award,” said Point. “Our world and its issues are not apart from us but rather are a part of who

we are. We must not stand by and observe the world but rather take steps to bring positive change.”

A selection committee for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award will include representation by Indigenous Elders, BC First Nations leadership and government partners.

Nomination forms are now available on the BC Achievement Foundation website, bcachievement.com. The nomination period will be open until January 15, 2021.



**BC Achievement
Foundation**



*Office of the
Lieutenant
Governor of
British Columbia*

British Columbia Reconciliation Award

Overview

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award was created to recognize individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering Truth and Reconciliation in the Province of BC; and/or inspired others to do so.

Why Nominate

The Award program provides an opportunity to publicly acknowledge the work of those individuals, groups and organizations committed to furthering the Principles of Reconciliation.

Any person, group or organization may submit nominations for the Award except current members of the selection committee, or members of their immediate family.

Who is Eligible

- Any British Columbian (or former long-term resident) or British Columbia-based group/organization that has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to advancing the principles of reconciliation in British Columbia is eligible to receive the Award.
- A person who is a member of the judiciary is *not eligible* for the Award.
- A person who is an elected federal, provincial or municipal representative is eligible to receive the Award while that person remains (is) in office.
- Chiefs or other members of a governing body of an Indigenous nation are eligible to receive the Award.
- There is no age requirement for the Award. Nominations of any individual under the age of 19 shall be accompanied by the permission of a parent or guardian.
- A person may receive the Award posthumously only if the selection committee has recommended the nomination to the Lieutenant Governor before their passing.
- A person, group or organization may not nominate themselves (i.e. self-nominations are not eligible).

Selection of Awardees

A selection committee for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award will include representation by Indigenous Elders, BC First Nations leadership, and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

Recognition of Awardees

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award is awarded by the Lieutenant Governor on the recommendation of the selection committee. Unless the Lieutenant Governor directs otherwise, the Awards shall be presented to the recipients as arranged by the Office of the Lieutenant



**BC Achievement
Foundation**



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British Columbia*

Governor. This may occur in community, or at other locations, to be determined during the year of the awards. Awardees may receive a certificate signed and presented by the Lieutenant Governor and a recognition piece.

Dates to Remember

- November 12, 2020 – Nominations OPEN
- January 15, 2021 – Nominations CLOSE

All nominations must be submitted online by January 15, 2021 (all materials must be received by 11:59pm).

How to Nominate/Apply

A completed nomination must include:

- A nomination form completed in full and signed by the nominator.
- A minimum of two signed testimonial letters from two separate individuals, other than the nominator. The letters must be signed by the testimonial writer and include his/her contact information (address, telephone number and email).

Submission of additional materials such as a biography, curriculum vitae, newspaper articles, video or recorded testimonials, links to YouTube videos, photos, etc., *is optional*. **A maximum of five items (10 pages total and five minutes of video) will be accepted.** All materials must be submitted electronically.

Visit [Resources](#) to download the guide for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award program, "Tips for a Compelling Nomination".

Please note:

- Incomplete nominations are ineligible for consideration.
- If more than one nomination is submitted for the same nominee, only the first nomination received will be considered.
- Nominations are valid for **three years** including the first year of nomination and two subsequent years and should be updated annually by request of the nominator.
- Nominations are kept confidential between the nominator and BC Achievement.
- Nominees are notified **only** if selected for an award.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What should be said in a testimonial letter?

A testimonial letter should: include details about how the nominee has demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of BC and/or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts; indicate the relationship between the writer and the nominee and the length of the relationship; describe the outcomes of the work the nominee has done to advance the principles of reconciliation and how the nominee's work has specifically impacted youth and/or Indigenous Elders.

2. To whom should the testimonial letter be addressed?

Letters should be addressed to the selection committee. All letters must be signed by the writer and include his/her contact information.

3. Can more than two testimonial letters be submitted?

Other testimonial letters may be submitted as 'additional materials'. A maximum of five items i.e. additional materials (10 pages total and five minutes of video) will be accepted. These five items may also include biography, curriculum vitae, newspaper articles, video or recorded testimonials, links to YouTube videos, photos etc.

4. Are congratulatory letters from other programs accepted in the nomination package?

Other congratulatory letters may be included as additional materials, but they may not serve as testimonials letters. Testimonial letters must be current and be specific to the nomination of the British Columbia Reconciliation Award.

5. Is a nomination considered for more than one year?

Submitted nominations begin a three-year program during which time the information can be reviewed by up to three juries. Nominators are given the opportunity to update their nomination each year prior to review by the selection committee.

6. Should the nominator tell the nominee about the nomination?

It is up to the discretion of the nominator whether or not to inform the nominee about the nomination.

7. When are the awardees notified and where are the names of the awardees published?

Awardees will be notified following the deliberations of the selection committee by BC Achievement. Their names will be announced through the Lieutenant Governor's and BC Achievement's respective media channels.



Tips for Submitting a Compelling Nomination

The British Columbia Reconciliation Award was created to recognize individuals, groups and organizations who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering Truth and Reconciliation in the Province of British Columbia; and/or inspired others to do so. Each nomination must include a nomination form completed in full and signed by the nominator and a minimum of **two signed testimonial letters** from two separate individuals, other than the nominator.

To make a testimonial letter stand out, it should:

- Include details and concrete examples about how the nominee has demonstrated exceptional leadership, integrity, respect and commitment to furthering reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in the province of BC and/or inspired others to continue reconciliation efforts;
- Indicate the relationship between the writer and the nominee and the length of the relationship;
- Describe the outcomes of the work the nominee has done to advance the Principles of Reconciliation and how the nominee's work has specifically impacted youth and/or Indigenous Elders; and
- Be current and written specifically for the British Columbia Reconciliation Award program.

A compelling testimonial letter may also include other details such as:

- How things were in the community prior to the nominee's efforts;
- The sustainability of their contribution/s;
- How their efforts have positively impacted the community or province;
- Any extraordinary circumstances or challenges the nominee has faced (i.e. provide biographical or historical context, if helpful); and
- Why the jury should select this submission above the others.

Submission of additional materials such as a biography, curriculum vitae, newspaper articles, video or recorded testimonials, links to YouTube videos, photos, etc., *is optional* but strongly recommended to give context and texture to the nomination. **A maximum of five items i.e. additional materials (10 pages total and five minutes of video) will be accepted.**

Note:

- Be concise. When describing a nominee, keep explanations clear and to the point.
- Strong nominations often use descriptive words to describe the nominees such as: advocate, leader, innovator, trailblazer, mentor, supporter, commitment, dedication, recognition, determination, exemplary, admired, motivated, passionate, inspirational, extraordinary, resourceful, persevering, tireless, resilient.
- Proofread all documents before submitting them.