

Best in Mount Pearl Awards Program Policy

POLICY:

The Department of Recreation and Community Safety have established the Best in Mount Pearl Awards Program to recognize the broad range of elements that make up Mount Pearl's inspiring culture, by acknowledging those who contribute time, talent, and resources towards improving the quality of life in the community. The program celebrates nominees worthy of recognition for exceptional contributions and/or achievements bringing honor and enrichment to the City of Mount Pearl.

PURPOSE:

This policy gives guidance to the Best in Mount Pearl Awards Selection Committee, Council, Staff and applicants on the principles and procedures to be used when administering the nominations for the Best in Mount Pearl Awards Program.

NOMINATION & ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:

The Best in Mount Pearl Awards program is designed to recognize volunteer efforts, exceptional contributions and/or achievements bringing honor and/or enrichment to the City of Mount Pearl. Only those who have volunteered their time and service and for which no remuneration or payment has been received will be eligible for an award.

Nomination forms must be completely and accurately filled out. The Awards Committee can only use the information provided in the nomination package to make an award recommendation. If a nomination is not completed to the satisfaction of the committee, the form may be disqualified, and the nomination rejected.

Requirements:

- Nominees are required to be a resident of Mount Pearl
- Nominators are not required to be a resident of the City of Mount Pearl.
- Nominations are to be submitted by someone external to the organization. Exceptions would be where a Supervisor, Board Member or other Management position is nominating worthy volunteers from their organization. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Categories Nominees may be eligible to receive awards in more than one category at the annual awards ceremony, should each nomination fulfil the criteria of the award category.

- The Awards Selection Committee reserves the right to change a nomination to an alternative category where they feel appropriate.
- Nominees may not receive awards in multiple categories for the same body of work. Should a recipient have received an award (in any category), they will not be eligible to receive an award in a different category for the service, work or contribution listed in the approved application of their received award.
- Award Nominations may be submitted to the Selection Committee any time prior to the deadline for submissions as determined by the Committee for the annual program. Nomination submissions received past the deadline will be disqualified.
- Posthumous Recognition Nominations may be eligible for posthumous recognition provided the nomination submitted qualifies and meets award criteria in any of the available categories.
- Members of the Selection Committee are not eligible to receive an individual award, or an award for work done on the Awards Committee, while they are still active on the committee.
- If a nomination has occurred, the committee member must declare a conflict of interest, and are not eligible to be part of the discussion or vote on whether the nominee(s) have satisfied the award requirements.
- Members of Council and City of Mount Pearl staff are not eligible to receive an individual award while they are serving their term on Council or are employed with the City.

Criteria for Best in Mount Pearl Awards:

Lifetime Achievement: Awarded to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the City of Mount Pearl over their lifetime (20+ years)

- Nominations will stay active for 5 years and can be updated.
- Must be a resident of Mount Pearl

Citizen of the Year: Awarded to an individual who has made significant contributions and showed outstanding civic mindedness in multiple areas of volunteerism within the community.

- Must be a resident of Mount Pearl
- Cannot be a city employee during the year of nomination accomplishments
- The selection committee will consider the following: • the benefits of their contributions to the community; • their service as a role model; • diversity of service; • leadership
- An Individual is eligible to be nominated in more than one (1) year; however, that individual shall not be eligible if they have previously been awarded the Citizen Award within a 10-year timeframe.

Community Group of the Year: Awarded to not-for-profit organization for outstanding service to the community.

- Community Group must reside in Mount Pearl
- award recognizes groups who positively impact the City of Mount Pearl through their volunteerism by enhancing quality of life for others.
- The committee, in selecting recipients will consider: Demonstrable impact on the community in the service of making Mount Pearl a better place to live; Multiple areas of volunteerism; Project leadership
- Previous recipients will be eligible for consideration if: Their achievement is in a different area than they were previously nominated for; Five years have passed since their last award for the same achievement; If in the same category, they have significantly exceeded their previous achievement.
- Service Organization recipients to be based upon 5-year increments of membership and service. Consideration to an exception may be provided for an activity that meets the Impact on Community requirement in an exceptional and outstanding way.

Impact in Music, Arts and Culture: Awarded to an individual or group whose artistic accomplishments brought recognition to the City of Mount Pearl, or for their outstanding contribution to fostering and developing music, arts, or cultural opportunities in the city.

- Awarded to an individual or group for promotion or high achievement in the Arts and/or significant cultural contributions to the community.
- The committee in selecting recipients will consider: • High achievements in the arts; • Their contribution to artistic excellence within the community; • Their leadership in teaching, encouraging, and engaging the public in cultural or artistic projects; • Projects that enhance the vitality and vibrancy of Mount Pearl.
- Previous recipients will be eligible for consideration if: • Their achievement is in a different area than they were previously nominated for; • Five (5) years have passed since their last award for the same achievement; • If in the same category, they have significantly exceeded their previous achievement.
- Must be a resident of Mount Pearl
- Cannot be a city employee during the year of nomination accomplishments

Urban Architecture/Design: Awarded to an individual or business who enhances quality of life and aesthetics through architectural or landscape design, advances environmental stewardship and/or promotes sustainable design.

- Nominee must reside in Mount Pearl and cannot be a city of mount pearl employee or city operated facility

Environment Award: to be awarded to a person or group for outstanding leadership, inspiration, vision, innovation, or action on behalf of environmental causes.

- The committee in selecting the recipient for the Environment Award will consider:
 - Completed a local fundraising campaign to benefit a local environmental project;
 - Raised awareness for environmental issues (including media coverage);
 - Provided a benefit to the environment through increased conservation, through restoration of natural habitat, in the use of environmentally sound practices in construction or operations.

- Previous recipients will be eligible for consideration if:
 - Their achievement is in a different area than they were previously nominated for;
 - Five (5) years have passed since their last award for the same achievement;
 - If in the same category, they have significantly exceeded their previous achievement.

- Nominee must reside in Mount Pearl and cannot be a city of mount pearl employee or city operated facility.

Urban Agriculture: The Urban Agricultural Award is presented to the individual or group who is involved in a project that has had a considerable impact in the area of agriculture in the City of Mount Pearl.

- Nominee must reside in Mount Pearl and cannot be a city of mount pearl employee or city operated facility
- The committee in selecting the recipient(s) for the Agricultural Award will consider:
 - Degree of contribution in promoting agriculture in Mount Pearl;
 - Received an award in a provincial or higher agricultural competition during the year for which the Agricultural Award is presented;
 - Leadership and innovation within the agricultural community;
 - Involvement within the community volunteering, teaching, promoting, or encouraging sustainable agriculture within Mount Pearl.
- Previous recipients will be eligible for consideration if:
 - Their achievement is in a different area than they were previously nominated for;
 - Five (5) years have passed since their last award for the same achievement;
 - If in the same category, they have significantly exceeded their previous achievement.