

Nomination Criteria for Annual ICNA Community Recognition Awards

Overview:

The Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA) Canada is a non-profit organization dedicated to establishing and promoting Islam and supporting Muslims in Canada. Founded in 1970, ICNA is involved in various activities, including educational programs, social services, Humanitarian aid and relief efforts, interfaith outreach, Youth programs, and Social Research. ICNA Canada operates through local chapters across the country, working to address the needs of Muslim communities and promote Islamic values in a Canadian context.

The MHD (Muslim Heritage Day) Community Recognition Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of Muslim Canadians. These awards honor individuals—children, youth, women, seniors, entrepreneurs, community builders, and others—who have enriched the community through their volunteer activities, leadership, innovation, business, academic, or professional achievements.

Nominees must be Albertans, who have played a significant role in developing and supporting the Muslim community and made a notable difference. Please see the categories below for nominations.

The last date for nominating a deserving individual is **Aug 10, 2024**.

Award Categories Explained:

1. Bridge Builders Award

- Recognize efforts in Islamic Dawah that bridge the Muslim community with broader communities and institutions, fostering understanding and collaboration. Honoring dedicated efforts in community service and acknowledge leadership within the Muslim community, celebrating those who inspire and lead by example, strengthening community bonds and unity.

2. Generations of Kindness Award

- Celebrating exceptional contributions to senior care and well-being in the Muslim Community. Acknowledging initiatives that bridge the gap between seniors and youth through meaningful intergenerational service projects.

3. Empower HER Excellence Award

- Honoring exceptional leadership and service dedicated for Muslim women. This award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to empowering Muslim women, promoting their health, education, and overall development, and creating opportunities for their personal and professional growth.

4. Rising Stars Leadership Award

- Honouring young leaders who inspire and drive positive change in Muslim communities. This award acknowledges the innovative efforts and impactful initiatives led by youth (age 15-24) who are dedicated to making a meaningful difference, fostering growth, and encouraging a brighter future for Muslim community.

5. Beacon of Hope Award

- Celebrating individuals that provide transformative support and advocacy for marginalized Muslim communities or individuals in Calgary. This award recognizes those who are dedicated to empowering and uplifting marginalized groups through impactful actions, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed.

6. Academic Achievement Award

- Recognizing exceptional community service and academic leadership that inspires the next generation of scholars. This award honours individuals who demonstrates outstanding dedication to both their community and academic excellence, serving as role models and motivating future scholars to pursue their educational and service-oriented goals.

7. Community Champion Award for Seniors

- This award honors a senior citizen, 65 years or older, who has dedicated significant time and effort to enhance the social and cultural fabric of Muslim community. The recipient of this award exemplifies an unwavering commitment to community service, actively contributing to various social, cultural, and educational activities. Their enthusiasm and dedication enrich community life and inspire others to engage and contribute. This award celebrates their outstanding contributions and enduring impact on community well-being.

8. Community Champion Award for Social Justice

- This award honors an individual who has made significant contributions for advancing social justice and equity for Muslim community locally and globally. This award honors a dedicated activist who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, advocacy, and impact in addressing systemic inequalities and fostering positive change. The recipient is celebrated for their unwavering commitment to empowering marginalized groups, promoting inclusivity, and inspiring others to act towards a more just and equitable society for all.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

- **Award Category** (select one):
 - Bridge Builders Award
 - Generations of Kindness Award
 - Empower HER Excellence Award
 - Rising Stars Leadership Award (15–24-year-olds)
 - Beacon of Hope Award
 - Academic Achievement Award
 - Community Champion Award for Senior (For age 65+)
 - Community Champion Award for Social Justice

Nominee Information

- **First and last Name of Nominee:**
- **Phone Number:**
- **Age:**
- **Gender:**
- **Address:**
- **Email Address:**
- **Occupation/Profession:**

Nominator Information

- **First and Last Name of Nominator:**
- **Phone Number:**
- **Age:**
- **Gender:**
- **Address:**
- **Email Address:**
- **Occupation/Profession:**
- **Relationship to Nominee:**

Nomination Details

- **Nominee’s Contributions:** Please provide a detailed description of the nominee's contributions and achievements relevant to the selected award category. (up to 500 words)
- **Impact on the Community:** Describe the positive impact the nominee has had on the community. Include specific examples and outcomes of their efforts. (up to 500 words)
- **Leadership and Innovation:** Explain how the nominee has demonstrated leadership and/or innovation in their contributions. (up to 500 words)
- **Additional Information:** Any additional information or achievements you would like to highlight about the nominee. (Optional up to 300 words)

Supporting Documents:

- Attach any supporting documents, such as letters of recommendation, awards, certificates, articles, or photos that highlight the nominee's achievements and contributions.
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Award Criteria:**Nominee's Contributions (up to 500 words):**

Provide a comprehensive account of the nominee's accomplishments and contributions that align with the chosen award category. Detail how their actions, initiatives, or projects have made a significant and positive impact, demonstrating their dedication, leadership, and effectiveness on the Muslim community.

Impact on the Community (up to 500 words):

Detail the nominee's positive influence on the Muslim community, illustrating specific examples and outcomes of their initiatives. Highlight how their actions have improved the Muslim community well-being, fostered unity, and brought about a meaningful change.

Leadership and Innovation (up to 500 words):

Describe how the nominee has exhibited exceptional leadership and innovation in their contributions. Highlight instances where they have taken initiative, inspired others, and introduced creative solutions that have positively impacted the overall Muslim community.

Additional Information (up to 300 words):

Please provide any other details or notable achievements about the nominee that you would like to highlight for the ICNA Annual Community Award 2024.

Important Notes:

- For nominees under 18, a parental or guardian consent letter is mandatory.
- You will be asked to provide contact information, including a mailing address, as the awards team may need to contact you regarding the nomination
- Provide a detailed explanation of how the nominee meets each of the four criteria: Contribution, Community, Leadership, and Innovation. Additional information is optional for a strengthened nomination application. Up to 500 characters are allowed in each section.
- Submissions can only be completed through the online nomination form. Forms sent by email/mail will not be accepted.
- Supporting documents can be uploaded in MS Word, PDF, or as a Photo format (for example, jpeg, png, etc.)
- Only one nomination per nominee. Multiple nominations for same nominee will be rejected.
- It is your responsibility to retain a copy of the nomination form/ Nominee Confirmation and Consent Form and all supporting documents for your records.

Submission Details

- Go to this link <https://icnacalgary.com/mhd-awards/>
- Fill and submit the nomination form and attach supporting documents by **Aug 10, 2024**.
- For any questions or additional information, please contact.
 - Ateeque Patel – 4167283842 – ateeque.patel@icna.ca
 - Dr. Aamir Jamal – 506261 6175 – aamir.jamal@icna.ca
 - Azhar Quddus – 4169310555 – azhar.quddus@icna.ca
 - Mohamed Saleem – 4038274320 - sallumy@gmail.com

After you Submit:

Once you have submitted the necessary information, your nomination will be reviewed by the ICNA Review Committee. All final decisions are at the discretion of the ICNA leadership team.

Nominators and nominees will be notified in writing of the decision. The ICNA Annual Awards recipients will be formally recognized at the Muslim Heritage Day on **August 17, 2024** to celebrate their achievements.

All the recipients will receive an award. Award winners may also be invited to participate in interviews, photographs, and videos to share their experiences and insights. To promote their outstanding achievements, brief biographies and photos of award recipients may be shared with the public and the media.

Thank you Note:

Thank you for your nomination and for helping us recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of impactful individuals.