

OBAA 2020 Award Descriptions & Criteria

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Lifetime Achievement Award

Description

The Ontario Business Achievement Awards (OBAA) Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to the person(s) who demonstrate leadership in a given Ontario industry that has a significant positive impact for the province and beyond.

Criteria:

- Prominent presence in Ontario.
- Aligned with OCC vision and mission.
- Proven achiever and strong contributor to Ontario economy.
- Pioneer or demonstrated leadership in defined business industry.
- Include two letters of reference from members of the community.
- Positive impact on the community, region or province.

Impact defined as bettering the province, engaging with the province, investing in the province, and/ or achieving inspiring accomplishments or goals for the province.

- Clearly defined 2-4 major accomplishments.

Beyond Borders, Business Award

Description

The Beyond Borders Business Award recognizes a small (1-50 employees) or medium-sized business (50-500 employees) that has implemented an export strategy that has positively affected its bottom line.

Criteria:

- Prominent business presence in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Small (1-50 employees) or Medium (50-500 employees) sized business.
- Demonstrated innovation through product/service development and commercialization leading to an expansion of global markets.
- Product and/or service must be manufactured and/or delivered from Ontario.
- Growth in export sales of at least 20 percent over the past year.
- Annual sales of over \$5 million (if 50+ employees) and under \$5 million (if 1-50 employees).
- Proven ability to create new jobs.
- Nominees to provide business plan/market entry plan, if available.

CEO of the Year Award

Description

The CEO of the Year Award is awarded to a CEO with exceptional leadership over the past 12 months, bringing their organization to a new level of growth and success as defined by their industry.

Criteria:

- Prominent business presence in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Proven achiever and strong contributor to the company, industry and Ontario economy.
- In CEO (or President) role for minimum 12 months (at time of nomination).
- Exemplifies leadership, integrity, excellence, innovativeness, vision and sustained performance.
- Demonstrated customer value and shareholder value created.
- Employee engagement, leadership development and internal people processes.
- Clearly defined 2-4 major accomplishments.

Diversity and Inclusion Award

Description

The Diversity and Inclusion Award recognizes business excellence in supporting the creation of diverse and inclusive workplaces.

Criteria:

- Prominent business presence in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Has a dedicated diversity and inclusion policy.
- Undertakes pro-active steps to recruit, retain, promote, and support under-represented groups.
- Demonstration of activities that have promoted an environment that is welcoming, supportive and nurturing of cultural, ethnic, racial, class, gender, sexual orientation, language and other human differences.
- Contributed to raising awareness and consciousness about diversity and inclusion for the greater good of the Ontario business community.

Excellence in Innovation Award

Description

The Excellence in Innovation Award is awarded to a business that exemplifies forward-thinking in all aspects of their business and contributes to our province's success, helps shape our future and inspires the next generation.

Criteria:

- Prominent business presence in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Demonstrated and measurable success in areas of innovation, service excellence, skills development or growth (sales, jobs, etc.).
- Prove your company is generating real business results through its' work products or work-integrated learning activities with a measurable and meaningful impact.
- Provide a description on how your company is unique and innovative.

Industry Award: Health

Description

This year, the Ontario Business Achievement Awards are recognizing the health industry with our Industry Award. This award recognizes a business' accomplishments across the sector and support for patients across the province.

Criteria:

- Emerging or established business presence in Ontario in good financial standing.
- Proven innovator or disruptor and strong contributor to the health care, health IT and/or health services sectors.
- Exemplifies excellence, vision, and innovative health solutions or health services enablement capabilities.
- Actively promoting, integrating, or otherwise developing the health industry in Ontario.
- Demonstrated ability to improve value for Ontario's health system while providing immediate benefit/improvements in health service delivery to patients or consumers.
- Provide 2-3 examples of how your business has positively impacted the local community and economy.

Ontario Leader in Accessible Employment Award

Description

The Ontario Leader in Accessible Employment recognizes a business that has created an accessible work environment. This organization values the contributions of persons with disabilities and promotes the development of an inclusive workplace culture for all.

Criteria:

- Company must be rooted in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).
- Company policies and procedures must foster accessible hiring, training and employment, and examples of how you promote an inclusive workplace culture, including:
 - Make hiring accessible by notifying applicants of the availability to accommodate individuals with disabilities
 - Tell staff about policies for supporting employees with disabilities
 - Make information accessible to employees
 - Help employees with disabilities stay safe
 - Develop accommodation plans for employees with disabilities
 - Help employees with disabilities return to work
 - Make performance management, career development and job changes accessible to employees

Sustainability Award

Description

The Sustainability Award is presented to the business who shows sustainable and long-term commitment to improving the quality of life in their community and is recognized as being a leader and/or has implemented an industry-leading environmental or corporate sustainability initiative.

Criteria:

- Prominent presence in business in Ontario and in good financial standing.
- Project or initiative is embedded within everyday business processes and planning with a positive impact on the community.
- Sustainability initiative that contributes positively to stakeholder engagement and community.
- Include two letters of reference from members of the community.
- Please provide 2-3 examples demonstrating your community influence.

Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award

Description

The Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award recognizes an Ontario entrepreneur who has successfully built a unique and game-changing venture.

Criteria:

- Must be under 35 years of age (at the time of nomination).
- Launched a unique venture with demonstrable high sales potential.
- Commercial product and/or service on the market for a minimum of one fiscal year.
- Proven ability to establish strategic partnerships to commercialize product or service.
- 2 letters of reference in support of the nominee.