



2020 NOMINATION GUIDE



Lifetime Achievement
Agriculture
Arts & Culture
Athletics, Recreation & Fitness
Business & Professions
Community Building
Construction
Education & Training
Entrepreneurship
Environment
Health & Wellness
Human Services
Young Woman of Excellence



WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS GALA



In support of:

RED DEER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
all for community.



RED DEER & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
all for community.

WE ARE NEIGHBOURS, FRIENDS,
CO-WORKERS AND FAMILY
MEMBERS.

WHO IS A WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE?

A **Woman of Excellence (WE)** is a woman who inspires others and has achieved outstanding success in her field by:

- Breaking new ground or old barriers;
- Showing vision, creativity and initiative;
- Being a leader and role model;
- Participating actively as a volunteer;
- Being recognized by her community for her sustained commitment and contributions within her category; (i.e. awards, accolades)

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS MADE
AN EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION IN YOUR
COMMUNITY?**



HONOUR THE WOMEN WHO INSPIRE YOU

The Red Deer & District Community Foundation's —**Women of Excellence Awards Program" (WE)** is a celebration of innovation, leadership, achievement and talent, as demonstrated by women throughout Central Alberta who have used their vision and determination to make Central Alberta a better place to live. The development and presentation of these awards reflects the Community Foundation's commitment to increase recognition of women who have earned the admiration and respect of their peers.



WOMEN OF
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS GALA

WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS GALA

Saturday, June 13, 2020 marks the 13th Annual Red Deer & District Community Foundation's **Women of Excellence Awards Gala**. The contributions and achievements of the women nominated in the twelve different awards categories are recognized at this event. The Red Deer & District Community Foundation extends its warmest thanks to all of our sponsors, nominators and nominees for taking the time to participate in our efforts to celebrate the remarkable women of our region.



HOW TO NOMINATE

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible nominees must:

- Live and work within the Central Alberta region.
- Be 18 years of age or older at the date of nomination, with the exception of nominees in the Young Woman of Excellence category who must be 15-25 years old.
- Consent to the nomination and the publication of her name, photo and information.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Anyone can make a nomination including men, family members, and friends.
- To avoid conflict of interest, neither the nominee, the nominator, nor the individuals who provide letters of support, may be a member of the Women of Excellence Awards Organizing Committee, the Women of Excellence Awards Adjudication Committee, or the Red Deer & District Community Foundation Board of Directors or staff.
- In some cases the Adjudication Committee may move a nominee to a more appropriate category, with notice to nominee and nominator.
- Incomplete or past deadline nomination packages WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- Nominations must satisfy each of the criteria for their award category.
- Posthumous nomination will not be accepted.

Completed Nomination packages must be received by Friday, January 31, 2020

HOW TO NOMINATE

Just 4 Simple Steps:

1. Visit www.RDDCF.ca
2. Select your nominee & gather nomination information.
3. Submit your Statement of Nomination online (Hardcopy packages may be picked up at the RDDCF office.)
4. Collect your supporting Documents and submit to sheracheson@rddcf.ca



HOW TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS

- Online: www.RDDCF.ca
- In person/By mail to:
Red Deer & District Community Foundation
Suite #503. 4901 48th Street
Red Deer, AB T4N 6M4

***Please mark as "Women of Excellence 2020"**

Call 403.341.6911 with any questions.



SELECTION PROCESS

The **WE** Adjudication Committee is assembled by the Red Deer & District Community Foundation. The Committee is comprised of community leaders chosen based on their merit as a strong representative in at least one of the award categories. The identity of the Adjudication Committee members is confidential.

Each package will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The nominee's unique and outstanding achievements relative to the category;
- The nominee's contribution as a role model for other women and/or girls;
- The nominee's contribution to the well-being of the community;

The Committee will choose an award recipient or recipients in each category based exclusively on the information indicated in the nomination packages submitted.

Please be thorough and factual with the information you provide.

The Adjudication Committee receives copies of all accepted nomination packages and ranks them according to set criteria. The Committee will meet to discuss their rankings and to select the recipients for the awards. **The decisions of the Adjudication Committee are final.**



2019 Women of Excellence Nominees



BIOGRAPHY & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Each statement of nomination must include a copy of the Nominee's most up to date **resume**, **biography** and two **(2) letters of support**. These supporting documents are essential components of the nomination package.

Please ensure that the biography contains relevant information on the nominee and the category she is being nominated. (ie: education, work experience and major achievements.)

Biographies must not exceed 120 words.

Nominee **biographies are a required element of the nomination package** and will be used for marketing purposes, print materials and are also included in the WE Gala program. All bios must be reviewed and approved by the nominee and RDDCF staff, before consideration for final adjudication.

Nominations are further supported by **two (2) letters of support (max)** to add specific details and information not otherwise contained in the nomination form. Nomination packages with more than two (2) letters of support, photos, tapes and video recordings **will not be accepted**.

Letters of support should not come from the nominator nor family members of the nominee and must include the following elements:

- Description of your relationship with the nominee;
- Detailed description of the following points:
 - Nominee's unique and outstanding achievements in her selected category;
 - Nominee's contributions to the well being of the community;
 - Nominee's contributions as a role model or mentor;



WOMEN OF
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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: JANUARY 31, 2020

Sample biographies & letters of support also available at www.RDDCF.ca



EXAMPLES:

WE are your neighbours, friends, co-workers and family members.

Women of Excellence (WE) enrich our community and inspire others through our creativity, compassion, and dedication. WE all have this in common: we use our talents, vision, and determination to make central Alberta an even better place to live, work & play.

SAMPLE LETTER OF SUPPORT:

Date

Adjudication Committee

2020 Women of Excellence Awards

Red Deer & District Community Foundation

Re: 2020 Red Deer & District Community Foundation Women of Excellence Awards

Roberta Smith—Community Building

I am pleased to write this letter of support for the nomination of Roberta Smith for the 2020 Women of Excellence Awards in the Community Building category. I have known Roberta for 10 years now, through our volunteer work with the RDDCF Association, where she served as Chair of the Board of Directors from 2008-2011. She has volunteered for the organization in various capacities way before she became the Board Chair. Through her work with the organization, she has shown her commitment to furthering the cause of a better quality of life for Red Deer and Surrounding areas.

Aside from her involvement in the RDDCF, she also has been involved in many other community organizations and initiatives such as the Central Alberta Children's Organization where she pioneered the Safe Kids Program; the Women's Association of Central Alberta, wherein she was an advocate for women and children's rights; was part of the creation and establishment of the Children's Centre in Red Deer and the Annual Children's Gala.

If not for her pioneering spirit and dedication to the cause of women, children and quality of life in general, the initiatives mentioned above would not have come to fruition. The impact of these programs has been way beyond women and children as it has impacted families and in turn impacted the community as a whole.

I am proud to say that Roberta has made me a better person by mentoring me when I first volunteered for the Red Deer & District Community Foundation. She has given me a priceless gift of her experience and has modeled the way for me on how to become a community builder. She is truly a Woman of Excellence!

Jane Doe

SAMPLE BIOGRAPHY:

(2020 WE nominee—Nicole Leal)

Nicole Leal, a dedicated and passionate artist, is highly regarded as a leader in the arts. A 2013 graduate from RDC's performing Arts & Creation program, Nicole landed the position as the first female Artistic Director for Tree House Youth Theatre. After Nicole's long history of volunteer work with Central Alberta Theatre, she was hired as their Production Manager. Her work as an actor includes Prime Stock Theatre's Bard on Bower, B.I.T.E., Butt Ugly, and alumna for RDC's main-stage performances. Roles in film include an extra with ignition Theatre and the lead in CACHE Production's film Are You Listening? In 2016, Nicole co-founded Red Deer's booming improvisation group improv Jelly. The arts community values her as a dynamic resource.

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOMINATIONS OPEN:

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 @ 8:30am

NOMINATION DOCUMENTS FINAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Friday, January 31, 2020 @ 4:30 pm

Incomplete packages will not be accepted after this date.

2020 AWARDS GALA

Saturday, June 13, 2020

Reception begins at 5:30 pm @ Cambridge Red Deer Hotel and Conference Centre.

Each nominee will receive two (2) complimentary tickets to the WE Gala.

STATEMENT OF NOMINATION CHECK LIST

Before you submit your Statement of Nomination, Please ensure you...:

- completed and signed the Nomination Form;
- responded to the three questions;
- included a short biography of the nominee; (**min—100 /max -120 words**)
- included a copy of the nominee's resume;

Gala tickets will be available for purchase online:

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at www.TicketsAlberta.com



2020 AWARD CATEGORIES

AGRICULTURE

WE are innovative – leaders in our philosophies and demonstrate commitment to sustainable practices in agriculture.

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

WE demonstrate outstanding achievement in the expression, development, preservation, patronage and/or promotion of the performing, visual, literary or multi-media arts and/or cultural heritage.

ATHLETICS, RECREATION & FITNESS

WE participate, coach and mentor, serving as an inspiration to others through our example and accomplishments, thereby enhancing the physical well-being of the residents of Red Deer and Central Alberta.

BUSINESS & THE PROFESSIONS

WE are acknowledged in our field for leadership and consistent commitment to excellence. WE leverage their achievements and management skills to facilitate change and create opportunities in either the for-profit or not-for-profit sectors. WE demonstrate a respect for and engagement with our community, clients/stakeholders and colleagues.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

WE have identified a local community need or issue and have provided effective initiative to inspire and pioneer meaningful change. WE are recognized as a source of strength and heart in their community, and harness the time, talent and capacity of others.

CONSTRUCTION

WE are acknowledged for our skills in building and creating spaces that contribute to the vibrancy of our community. **WE** are recognized for our ability to create opportunities for and inspire others to participate in industry.



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

WE are celebrated for outstanding achievement in practice, development and/or research in the educational system, employee development, community education or alternative programs.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WE have a solid vision of the future, and possess creativity and ingenuity that separates us from our peers. WE have taken an innovative approach to solving a problem, filling a need or breaking into a new market. Women who have made sacrifices and risked a great deal to successfully manage, launch or revive a business, product or service.

ENVIRONMENT

WE have demonstrated a commitment to the preservation and improvement of our natural environment.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

WE have experienced outstanding achievement in promotion, education, and/or involvement in the physical, emotional, and/or spiritual health and well-being of others.

HUMAN SERVICES

WE may work or volunteer in the for-profit or not-for-profit sectors and are acknowledged in our field for leadership, compassion and practice in human service programs and/or organizations within the community.

YOUNG WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE

WE are young (15-25) and are respected for achievements and commitments to education and lifelong learning; work or career; and/or community. WE are a positive influence on our peers.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

WE are life long role models, mentors and advocates, for positive change. **WE** have dedicated our life's work to improving the lives of those who surround us. The recipient of this award is selected among the roster of nominees.