



Provincial Award Descriptions, Criteria and Guidelines

BCRPA offers awards in the following 5 award categories:

- [Award of Merit](#)
- [Citation of Outstanding Achievement](#)
- [Facility Excellence Award](#)
- [Parks Excellence Award](#)
- [Program Excellence](#)

Award of Merit

Recognition for achievement at the municipal, regional, and/or special interest area level. This achievement shall involve a significant distinct contribution to the enhancement of local recreation and parks, or a specific interest area.

Eligibility:

- Individuals, staff teams, corporations, organizations and government jurisdictions. Both nominator(s) and nominee must be BCRPA members in good standing to qualify for BCRPA Provincial Awards.

Selection Guidelines:

- Sustained and meritorious effort over many years in the enhancement of local Recreation and Parks.
 - Significant contribution to a broad range of recreation and parks services in a Community, Region or Special Interest Area.
 - Promotion of Recreation and Parks among consumers of Recreation services in the nominee's service area.
 - Initiation of a service or a method which is being widely utilized by other recreation and parks agencies at the municipal, regional, and/or special interest area level.
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Citation of Outstanding Achievement

Recognition for outstanding achievement to recreation and parks on a provincial basis. The achievements shall have enhanced the public image or further developed the body of knowledge in recreation and parks for the benefit of all citizens of British Columbia.

Eligibility:

- Open to individuals. Both nominator(s) and nominee must be BCRPA members in good standing to qualify for BCRPA Provincial Awards.

Selection Guidelines:

- Provincial accomplishment to promote high standards and public awareness of recreation and parks in British Columbia.
 - Significant contribution to a broad range of Recreation and Parks among consumers of recreation and parks services in the nominee's services area.
 - Significant contribution to the founding, growth, or development of a provincial recreation and parks organization.
 - Authorship of an outstanding contribution for the literature of the recreation and parks movement in Canada.
 - Service or facility innovation of outstanding quality related to the recreation and parks field.
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Facility Excellence Award

Recognition of excellence in facility concept, design development, maintenance, or operation. The facility shall have demonstrated outstanding innovation which has made, or could make, significant impact in the recreation and parks field. Per Board decision, as of 2016, nominations for this award with capital costs lesser and greater than \$1,000,000 (\$1M) are reviewed separately.

Eligibility:

- Corporations, organizations, and government jurisdictions. Both nominator(s) and nominee must be BCRPA members in good standing to qualify for BCRPA Provincial Awards.
- Facility must:
 - be accessible to all patron groups
 - be innovative and creative
 - have been open for a minimum of one year
- Facilities can be outdoor or indoor, but must be mostly man-made.

Selection Guidelines:

- Planning, design, development and maintenance and/or operations of recreation and parks areas and facilities in British Columbia (including libraries, art galleries, museums, zoos, parks, playgrounds, performing arts facilities, horticulture areas, swimming pools, arenas, community centres, planetariums, and other public spaces.)
- Award covers areas such as architectural design, collaborative operation or development (i.e. community school, community-private enterprise), innovative legislation or by-laws, unique equipment design or adaptation, and parks and open spaces design.

- Award considers the contributions made by individuals, designers, professionals, elected officials and citizens.
 - Award considers effectiveness in terms of social, economic and environmental benefits and enhancements made to the community.
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Parks Excellence Award

Recognition for excellence in the concept, design and development of parks spaces. This space shall have demonstrated outstanding and/or innovative aspects which have or could have significant impact in the recreation and parks field.

Nominations for Environmental Leadership initiatives will be accepted as Parks Excellence nominations.

Eligibility:

- Corporations, organizations, and government jurisdictions. Both nominator(s) and nominee must be BCRPA members in good standing to qualify for BCRPA Provincial Awards.
- Park/open space must:
 - be accessible to all patron groups
 - be innovative and creative
 - have been in existence for a minimum of one year

Selection Guidelines:

- Accessibility for all patron groups
 - Demonstrates unique, innovative and creative design and/or use features
 - Demonstrates public acceptance and usage
 - Demonstrates social, economic and environmental benefits and enhancements made to the park/open space
 - Award considers the contributions made by individuals or designers
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Program Excellence Award

Recognition for outstanding achievement in public recreation services programming. This award recognizes creative, successful, and innovative programs which may serve as models for other recreation and parks agencies to enhance their services. Per Board decision, as of 2016, nominations for this award from communities with populations smaller and larger than 15,000 are reviewed separately.

Nominations for HIGH FIVE® programming and Healthy Choices initiatives will be accepted as Program Excellence nominations.

Eligibility:

- Corporations, organizations, and government jurisdictions. Both nominator(s) and nominee must be BCRPA members in good standing to qualify for BCRPA Provincial Awards
- May be individual courses, workshops, special events
- May be directed to a specific population, age group, or special interest group within a community but must be offered by a public recreation and parks agency

Selection Guidelines:

- Provides an exemplary example of creative, successful, and innovative programming
- Delivered in a manner representative of exemplary customer service to participants
- Contributes significantly to the social, intellectual, or physical well-being of the participants
- Contributes to the social goals of the broad community, overall quality of life and the level of community engagement and involvement