

The Mayor's Choice Award is an Award of Excellence recognizing individuals and groups who have made significant contributions in the City of Surrey. This category can be customized to recognize a campaign or initiative that is significant and unique to the Mayor each awards cycle.

### **Discussion - Celebrating Diversity and Building Community**

Surrey is one of the fastest growing and most culturally diverse cities in Canada. Initiatives that celebrate culture and bring together diverse groups of people are key to creating a healthy community where all people feel welcome and can thrive.

The Mayor's Choice Award is an Award of Excellence recognizing individuals and groups who have made significant contributions in the City of Surrey. This year's Mayor's Choice Award supports the City's values of community and teamwork, and the goals of building community pride and creating a thriving, green, inclusive city and will recognize those who by bring people together and increase the wellbeing and resiliency of the community through diversity and inclusion initiatives.

### **Award Categories**

There are three award categories for the Mayor's Choice Award:

- **Celebrating Diversity and Building Community (individual):** This category recognizes outstanding initiatives undertaken by individuals to build community by bringing diverse people together to create a more inclusive community for everyone.
- **Celebrating Diversity and Building Community (community group or non-profit):** This category recognizes outstanding initiatives undertaken by community groups and non-profits to build community by bringing diverse people together to create a more inclusive community for everyone.
- **Celebrating Diversity and Building Community (business or institution):** This category recognizes outstanding initiatives undertaken by businesses, organizations or institutions to build community by bringing together diverse people together to create a more inclusive community for everyone.

### **Eligibility**

All Surrey residents, groups, organizations and businesses are eligible. To be considered for an award, activities must have taken place in the last four years (2020-2023).

### **Nomination/Submission Criteria**

A nomination form will be posted on the City's website. It will ask for:

- contact information for the nominee and nominator;
- approximately 250 words outlining why the nominee should be considered for the award; and
- contact information for at least two references who support the nomination and can be contacted to provide further information about the nominee.

The submission requirements and process will be described on the Civic Distinction Awards web page, and nominations will be accepted until the advertised closing date. The nominator will make a submission by completing the online submission form through the City of Surrey's website, or by hard copy delivered to City Hall. Self-nomination is not permitted.

### **Selection/Evaluation Process**

Staff will review the nominations and recommend recipients of the Mayor's Choice Award to the Mayor for final approval.

### **Recognition**

Award recipients will be recognized through the Civic Distinction Awards program and will be presented with awards of excellence. Recipients will be recognized by the City through a press release, social media campaign and website acknowledgement.

The City reserves the right to award multiple Mayor's Choice Awards, or none, within the award cycle.