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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Matthews, Lesley" <lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca>

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Subject: Awards of Excellence 2019

Attachments: 2019_Awards of Excellence_Categories.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

The *Awards of Excellence* is a City of Vancouver awards program that recognizes outstanding civic achievements. The award categories are:

- Accessible City Award
- Civic Volunteer Award
- Diversity and Inclusion Award
- Greenest City Leadership Award
- Healthy City for All Award
- Mayor's Achievement Award (Note: This award is not subject to the public nomination process. Recipients are selected by the Mayor)

Nominations will be accepted online starting Monday, March 4th until Friday, April 5th. Nominations are open to anyone who lives, works, volunteers or goes to school in Vancouver, including the University Endowment Lands. Nominations are also open to organizations and businesses based in the city of Vancouver. Nominations **are not accepted** for City of Vancouver employees, elected officials or self-nominations of individuals. Eligible nominations are reviewed by the Nomination Sub-Committee, which makes recommendations to Council based on the criteria below:

- Scope:** The range of activities and breadth of influence or inspiration of the achievement
- Achievement:** The significance of the achievement itself, with consideration given to creativity, innovation, and general significance of the activity for the individual or community
- Impact:** The potential for fundamental and lasting positive change
- Method:** The manner in which the activities were performed, for example, with creativity, innovation, inclusivity, consultation, and collaboration

Each award category can have up to 3 recipients, including one child or youth (21 years or younger), one individual, and one business or organization. Child and youth recipients receive a \$500 bursary with their *Award of Excellence*. The final selection of award recipients is done by Council. It is important to note that it is not a requirement for Council to grant all three awards per category, as awards should only be granted for outstanding achievements. Being selective in who receives the awards helps to ensure that they are highly-valued in the community, and allows staff to shine a brighter spotlight on the recipients' achievements.

Awards will be presented by Mayor Stewart and City Councillors at a public ceremony on the evening of July 12th from 5:30 – 8 PM at the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre. Please mark this date and time in your calendar.

Council is a key partner in promoting the awards and encouraging people to submit nominations. When

nominations open on March 4, you will receive an email template and suggested text for social media posts to promote the awards to the people and organizations in your networks.

If you have any questions about the Awards of Excellence program, please contact lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

2019 Awards of Excellence

Award Categories

Accessible City Award

Recognizes individuals or organizations who improve access and inclusion for persons with disabilities, or remove barriers and create opportunities. For example:

- Providing physical access to buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces
- Connecting people with disabilities to opportunities, services and information
- Inspiring a culture of inclusion in the city

Civic Volunteer Award

Recognizes those who excel at volunteering to make Vancouver a better place to live, work, and play. Nominees need to volunteer on a City board, agency, or committee, or with a group that gets funding from the City.

Diversity and Inclusion

Celebrates the leadership of those who support inclusion, and advocate for communities to be free of racism and discrimination. Consideration will be given to applicants whose work supports diversity and inclusion related to: ethnicity, age, ancestry, sexual orientation, religion, gender identity, and socioeconomic status.

Greenest City Leadership Award 2019

Recognizes those who have made significant contributions to advancing our goal of becoming the Greenest City in the world. Whether they help protect our climate, reduce waste, support local food or enhance our natural spaces, these award recipients are environmental leaders.

Healthy City for All Award 2019

Recognizes those who lead projects that create a thriving, healthy, and liveable city for everyone. In particular, projects that advance these Healthy City Strategy goal areas:

- Healthy Human Services (destigmatization, harm reduction, and peer-support related to the Overdose Crisis)
- Making Ends Meet and Working Well (community economic development, social enterprise, and jobs for youth or other groups with barriers to employment)
- Cultivating Connections (helping Vancouverites connect with each other and reduce social isolation)

Mayor's Achievement Award

The Mayor's Achievement Award recognizes those who have a legacy and reputation for making life better for a broad segment of our population. In particular, those who made Vancouver shine with their long-term commitment to public engagement and volunteering. Recipients are selected by the Mayor and are not open for public nomination.