

# Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers presents: The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual RISE Awards



Recognizing Immigrant Success in Edmonton

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## Seeking Nominations for Community Awards

The Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers will be hosting the RISE Awards, which Recognize Immigrant Success in Edmonton. Community awards will recognize the social, cultural, and economic contributions of newcomers and born-Canadians who support newcomers' integration and success in Edmonton.

### Do you know:

- ✓ An immigrant that deserves recognition for his or her achievements and successes?
- ✓ An immigrant who deserves recognition for commitment, leadership and innovation, in achieving his or her goals at the community level?
- ✓ A Canadian-born individual who deserves recognition for his or her contributions to the success of immigrants?

This is your opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements and success of individuals who have shown commitment, innovation, and dedication to achieving their goals on an individual, family and community level.

**Deadline for submissions is February 19, 2016**

## General Eligibility Criteria

- The nominee must have been born outside of Canada (with the exception of the Community Leadership Award for a Non-immigrant)
- Nominations must be accompanied by 3 nominee references (main nominator and two others) and their contact information
- Nominated individuals or groups must agree to being recognized for their nomination
- Nomination packages must include thorough responses to the specific award questions. No additional information or documents will be accepted. If further information is required, nominators will be contacted by the jury.
- Nomination forms must be completed correctly and submitted by **February 19, 2016**.

## Award Categories:

### 1. Arts and Culture Award

This award will demonstrate achievement in an artistic project by an immigrant including visual, written, performing arts (i.e. cultural dance, acting, and singing). The nominee's project should have a positive impact on the community, showing immigrants' positive impact on Edmonton.

#### Nomination Criteria:

- The nominee must have been born outside of Canada
- The nominee must self-identify as an artist, including, but not limited to a musician; poet; visual artist; writer/playwright; actor
- The nominee must demonstrate commitment to their craft and an interest in building awareness about the importance of art throughout Edmonton
- The nominee must demonstrate strength of character
- The nominee must demonstrate experience in their field and a mastery of skill or high degree of expertise, and must have a current, demonstrated commitment to his or her activities

### 2. Community Leadership Award—Immigrant

This award will identify great service in the community by an immigrant, including areas of community leadership, education, health, and emotional, social, community, or spiritual growth. Their actions should encourage cooperation and develop relationships between Canadian-born and immigrant communities.

#### Nomination Criteria:

- The nominee must have been born outside of Canada
- The nomination must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to their vision and examples of their work must be clearly articulated in the nomination package, including a description of programs, services, or practices of the nominee
- The nomination must describe an understanding of the current community issues and a rationale for why the nominee chose specific actions or initiatives must be clearly articulated
- The nominee's initiative must fill a gap in service, have an impact beyond one ethno-cultural community, work towards bridging communities, and have clear and measurable outcomes

### 3. Community Leadership Award—Non-Immigrant

This award will recognize commendable service to the immigrant community by a born-Canadian including but not limited to the areas of intercultural community leadership, education, health promotion, emotional, community, or social advancements.

#### Nomination Criteria:

- The nomination must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to their vision and examples of their work must be clearly articulated in the nomination package, including a description of programs, services, or practices of the nominee
- The nomination must describe an understanding of the current community issues and a rationale for why the nominee chose specific actions or initiatives must be clearly articulated
- The nominee's initiative must fill a gap in service, have an impact beyond one ethno-cultural community, and have clear and measurable outcomes
- The nominee's activities must be aimed at the cooperation, collective contribution, or inclusion-fostering between born-Canadians and immigrant communities

#### 4. Lifetime Achievement Award

This award will recognize an immigrant who, over a longer period of time, has made substantial contributions to the greater Edmonton community in more than one of these areas: arts and culture; business; community service; health; social services; and education.

##### Nomination Criteria:

- The nominee must have been born outside of Canada
- The nominee's contributions must be rooted in the greater Edmonton community, but may reach beyond the scope of the city and the nominee must have been an active contributor to their realm of service for a minimum of 10 years
- The nominee must have made a significant contribution to Edmonton in more than one of the following ways: arts and culture; business; community service; health; social service; education
- The nominee must have demonstrated a mastery of skill or a high degree of expertise in their realm of specialization and their actions must have resulted in a tangible, measurable impact on the greater Edmonton community
- The nominee must have a demonstrated commitment towards their activities, and possess outstanding qualities and characteristics

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### Selection Process and Timeline

When nominations open, please visit [www.emcn.ab.ca/rise-awards](http://www.emcn.ab.ca/rise-awards) to begin the process. Please complete and submit the pre-nomination form. You will then be contacted with an invitation to proceed with the nomination, at which point you will be welcome to submit a full nomination to the jury.

An independent, impartial jury will review all nominations and select the recipients of the awards, which will be presented at the **2016 RISE Awards Gala**.

##### The jury will consider the following:

- Any individual in Edmonton and the surrounding region who is eligible for nomination
- Nominees from previous years are welcome to resubmit nominations
- Nominated individuals must agree to being recognized for their achievements

##### Timeline:

- Nominations open January 12, 2016
- Nomination application due **February 19, 2016**
- Jury review of packages and approval of selections March, 2016
- Winners and Nominators notified by email by April 8, 2016

##### Please Note:

- The RISE jury reserves the right to place nominees in another award category if they deem the criteria satisfactory
- All nominees will be contacted once their submission has been received
- All winners will be provided two complimentary tickets to attend Awards Gala to be acknowledged on the day of the event (additional tickets will be available for purchase)

For more information on the RISE Awards or to nominate an individual for a RISE Award, please go to [www.emcn.ab.ca](http://www.emcn.ab.ca) and click on the RISE Awards tab. Final submissions may be made online, in person, mailed to the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, 11713 - 82 St., Edmonton, AB T5B 2V9, or by email at [astevens@emcn.ab.ca](mailto:astevens@emcn.ab.ca), and must be received no later than 4:30pm on Friday, February 19, 2016.

Late submissions will not be accepted.