



## Honouring Community Excellence: Citizen of the Year Award 2026

### CRITERIA OVERVIEW

The Citizen of the Year Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Cranbrook through service, leadership, and a commitment to improving the lives of others. This award celebrates those who go above and beyond in demonstrating civic pride and have a positive impact on the social, cultural, or environmental well-being of Cranbrook.

The following criteria outline the qualities and achievements considered in the selection process. Nominees are evaluated based on their level of involvement, the significance and sustainability of their contributions, and the extent to which their efforts inspire others and foster a stronger, more connected Cranbrook.

An ideal nominee would demonstrate that their service to Cranbrook has had significant positive impact. Some of these ways may include:

- supporting vulnerable populations
- improving local services
- fostering cultural inclusion
- volunteering selflessly
- contributing to their cause for years

Nominees are evaluated on several key qualities including community impact, volunteerism & service, leadership, integrity & character, dedication & commitment, inclusivity & collaboration, innovation or initiative, and positive influence.

Please ensure that your nomination and letters of support clearly outline and provide specific examples.

### NOMINATION CRITERIA

While nominees are not required to meet every key quality, more detailed submissions will carry greater weight.

- **Community Impact:** The impact of their contributions on Cranbrook is considered, particularly how their efforts have created lasting, positive change. Please describe the nominee's involvement in local projects, charities, or initiatives.
- **Volunteerism & Service:** The scope of any volunteer service is assessed by considering the time, effort, and consistency they devote across different sectors—such as youth, seniors, sports, and the arts. Please list any organizations that received volunteer efforts from the nominee.

- **Leadership:** The nominee has demonstrated the ability to step into leadership roles, taking initiative and responsibility. Nominees do not need to be volunteers to demonstrate leadership. Please describe the nominee’s ability to lead, act as a role model in Cranbrook, inspire others through actions, and take initiative in solving problems.
- **Integrity & Character:** Leading by example and earning the trust and respect of others through honesty, accountability, and fairness demonstrates the moral foundation of a nominee’s actions. Please describe the nominee’s consistent ethical behaviour even in challenging situations.
- **Dedication & Commitment:** The consistent involvement over time, whether volunteer or professional, reflects a long-term commitment to helping others. Please describe the nominee’s length of consistent service (number of years of continuous contribution), consistency of effort, dependability, and depth of involvement.
- **Inclusivity & Collaboration:** Does the nominee have the ability to bring people together, value diverse perspectives, and to ensure that everyone feels valued and heard? Please elaborate on how well the nominee works with diverse groups, encourages participation, and works cooperatively to strengthen Cranbrook.
- **Innovation or Initiative:** Does the Nominee show problem-solving skills and resourcefulness in response to community challenges? Please describe how/when the nominee introduced new ideas or approaches to improve Cranbrook.
- **Positive Influence:** Overall fit for the award is judged based on their demonstration of selflessness, positivity, and a sincere drive to make Cranbrook a better place. Please describe the nominee’s impact through their attitude as well as spirit of encouragement and respect.

Together, these criteria help identify individuals who truly embody the spirit of community and service.

## ELIGIBILITY

- The nominee must be an individual.
- The nominee must not be a past recipient, nor an elected representative or member of the judiciary who still holds office.
- Self-nominations are not eligible.

## SUBMIT A NOMINATION

Please complete the [online nomination form](#) and submit a minimum of 3 letters of support.

Deadline for nominations is August 14, 2026.

