

2024 Nomination Guidelines

Do you know an outstanding woman or group of women who deserves recognition? We encourage you to nominate a **Woman of Distinction** who has made a significant impact in their community. The **YWCA Regina Women of Distinction Awards** recognize women pursuing innovation and using their voices, talent and abilities to be agents of change in the community.

This event helps us break down barriers for women and girls, promote safety and security, empower children and youth, and speak out for women and their families.

Who is a Woman of Distinction?

A Woman of Distinction has made a commitment to and a significant difference in their community and world. Their achievements demonstrate vision, innovation, initiative, and a desire to make an impact for those they work with and serve every day. A Woman of Distinction is not just a member of her community, but a person making an active effort within that community to make a tangible and longstanding difference.

Nominees may have:

- Been an agent for change
- Achieved outstanding success in her chosen field
- Broken new ground and overcome barriers
- Succeeded in a non-traditional role
- Led by example to enact change
- Participated actively as a volunteer
- Made significant contributions to the community
- Served as a leader and as a positive role model
- Provided significant mentorship to girls and/or women
- Been a voice for a cause or injustice happening in the community

We strongly encourage nominations for women from the Black community, Indigenous community; two spirit, gender and sexually diverse community; for women who are racialized or living with disabilities; as well as newcomers and youth. These awards honour all women.

Nomination Deadline

- **Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 11:59pm**

Submitting A Nomination

Easily Submit Your Nomination Online by clicking [HERE](#)

- **MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59 PM ON Saturday December 9,2023**
- Late submissions will not be considered.
- Incomplete forms will not be considered. **All supporting documents must be submitted by the deadline for a nomination to be considered complete.**
- Once submitted, nomination packages cannot be edited or altered.
- Nominators must fill out all documents fully and truthfully, to the best of their knowledge.

Any questions? Reach out to us directly by emailing events@ywcaregina.com

Award Category Descriptions

Women of Distinction award categories evolve yearly to be representative of the work that is being done by women and gender diverse people in our community. They are reflective of YWCA Regina's commitment to igniting the equitable inclusion of women and fierce dedication to being a community voice of and for women.

Action & Advocacy

This award will honour a woman or group of women who are leading social action, volunteering & humanitarianism in the community. She dedicates her career, time, or personalized interests toward lending a hand to organizations and causes in the community. She has made a significant difference in Southern Saskatchewan while leveraging passion, position, and desire to enact change through inspiring, educating, and creating action toward the causes she cares about. She motivates others to use their voice, take action and make change in the community.

Women in Non-Traditional Roles

This award will honour a woman or group of women who are breaking ground and displaying leadership in a role that is considered non-traditional. Non-traditional is defined as any occupation in which women make up 25% or less of the total workforce. She has made a significant and sustained difference in the Southern Saskatchewan area. She works to create opportunities for women in her chosen industry or field, uplifting them to succeed in these non-traditional roles. She may work in the fields of science, technology, engineering, agriculture, farming, trades and construction or any other non-traditional industry.

Innovator

This award honours a woman whose achievements in the corporate sector or as a business owner show her commitment to excellence in the business world. She may be a founder, owner, leader or other innovator, creating or implementing programs, practices, policies or activities in her chosen field. She embraces new, original ideas and pursues creative ways of making a difference in business. She has a proven track record of innovation, sustainability, and profitability in her field, leveraging her success to advocate for and to elevate other women in business. She has demonstrated leadership within her company or among her employees, facilitating change and opportunities whenever possible.

Indigenous Resurgence in Action

This award will honour a woman or group of women who are answering the call for Indigenous cultural resurgence and reconciliation. She has made a significant and sustained difference through her commitment to re-establishing cultural practices which may include language revitalization, ceremonial teachings and programming, along with advocacy on Treaty and Inherent rights recognition, reconciliation actions in community conversation and relationship building. She may be part of a group or working independently to advocate and find a new way forward. She inspires, motivates, and leads by action to create the change she wants to see.

Igniting Equity

This award will honour a woman who has made significant and sustained difference with and for marginalized groups within her the community. She is a voice for change and igniting equity. She has challenged systems that

oppress women, racialized groups or gender and sexual diverse persons or those suffering from homelessness and mental health issues. She may work with and lead different services within her community or has created programs to help uplift and empower these marginalized groups. She has broken down barriers through her professional and/or personal endeavours, leading by example for the work she does every day.

Community Champion

This award will honour a woman or group of women who inspire a passion for learning and development in those around her. She has made a significant and sustained difference in the Southern Saskatchewan area. She contributes through practice, research or administration in a learning environment including the education system, employee training and development, community education and/or alternative programs. She shares her skills, her passion and mentors others in her area of learning. She motivates others to gain knowledge, set goals or seek opportunities. She may be an academic, educator, administrator, volunteer her time or be another champion of learning.

Young Women of Distinction

This award will honour a young woman or group of women between the ages of 14 to 25 in the Southern Saskatchewan area who have made a significant and sustained difference in her chosen field of work, education, or volunteering. She demonstrates leadership, maturity and compassion. She has made a significant difference through her commitment to a cause or pursuit of a personal dream while showing perseverance, innovation and a keen understanding of community issues.

Nomination Guidelines

Nominee Criteria

- The nominee must be a woman living in southern Saskatchewan at the time of the nomination. Southern Saskatchewan is considered, the area south of Davidson.
- Posthumous nominations cannot be accepted.
- Any nominee submission for all categories except the Young Woman of Distinction must be a woman who is 18 years of age or older as of 11:59 pm on Saturday December 9, 2023.
- All nominees for the Young Woman of Distinction Award must be between 14-25 years of age.
- A woman may be a nominee in only one category each year.
- **Past award winners cannot be nominated again as an individual, but may be part of a group nomination.**
- **Nominees MUST consent to being nominated**
- Nominees must align with YWCA Regina's purpose, aspiration, and values. In group nominations, each woman included and recognized as part of the group must meet this standard, individually.
- To avoid conflict of interest, the nominee may not be a member of the Women of Distinction Committee, the Values Alignment Committee or Selections Committees, YWCA Regina Board of Directors or YWCA Regina staff.

Finalist Criteria

- All Finalists must give consent in writing to being a Women of Distinction Finalist, confirm the accuracy and completeness of finalist information and agree to the publication of their name and photo.

- **Finalists are required to participate in ALL Women of Distinction events and promotions. Finalist Filming to be held March 4-8, Finalist Reception April 13 and the Awards Celebration in June 2024.**
- A woman may be a Finalist in only one category each year. Finalists who were not recipients may be re-nominated in subsequent years in the same or in a different category.
- All Finalists must align with the purpose, aspiration, and values of YWCA Regina. The Women of Distinction Values Alignment Committee reserves the right to remove a Finalist if at any point they become unaligned with the purpose, aspiration and values of YWCA Regina.

Nomination Adjudication Process

- Nominations are reviewed when they are received to confirm their eligibility (ie: All fields of the application are filled out and supporting documents have been received).
- The Values Alignment Committee retains the right to refuse or remove nominations that do not align with the purpose, aspiration, and values of the YWCA Regina.
- There is no guarantee a nominee will be chosen as a finalist.

Finalist Adjudication & Award Selection Process

- Qualifying nominees are presented to the Selections Committee. This committee is separate from YWCA Regina and the Values Alignment Committee. Committee members are selected to provide fair and diverse representation, reflecting a balance of interests, influences and expertise.
- Finalists for each category are selected based upon the strength of the application in relation to the category in which they are submitted. Only information included within the package will inform adjudication.
- Final category assignment is determined by the Selections Committee. Upon assessment of a nominee's application, a better suited category may be identified by the Selection Committee and will be communicated in the confirmation of selection to all finalists.
- All deliberations of the Selections Committee will be treated confidentially, and the decisions of the Selections Committee are final.

Questions? We are here to help!

Please contact:

Events@ywcaregina.com