

Policy

Title: COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARDS POLICY		Number: 0113
Reference: Administrative Committee - September 13, 2017 June 26, 2019 September 25, 2019 Administrative Committee March 17, 2021	Adopted by City Council: June 17, 2019	
	City Clerk	Chief Administrative Officer
Supersedes: November 6, 2006 September 18, 2017		
Prepared by: Corporate Communications, Chief Administrative Office		

STATEMENT

**THE CITY OF MEDICINE HAT MAY GIVE BIENNIAL RECOGNITION
TO SELECTED INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MADE EXTRAORDINARY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY.**

PRINCIPLES

1. To recognize those citizens, who by their dedication, activities and/or accomplishments have promoted our community or enhanced the quality of life in Medicine Hat.

ROLE OF COUNCIL

1. To receive, review and adopt this policy and any recommended amendments thereto.
2. Council is responsible for approving recipients within all categories.
3. Council sponsors a special reception biennially to present the awards and honour the recipients.

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1. DEFINITIONS

1.01 The categories are defined as follows:

(a) **Award of Achievement**

- (1) Sports/Recreation: For an individual or team in an amateur or professional competition who has competed in a Provincial championship and who has placed first, or in a National and/or an International championship and who has placed first, second or third in that competition.
- (2) Arts/Culture: For an individual or team in an amateur or professional competition who has competed in a Provincial championship and who has placed first, or in a National and/or International championship and who has placed first, second or third in that competition.

(b) **Award of Service**

- i. For an individual, organization or business (outside of core business) who has made a major contribution to enhance the quality of life in Medicine Hat. Contributions may be in the areas of:
 - 1) Sports/Recreation: Development or support of recreational, physical, leisure activities or organized competition events in a volunteer or professional capacity
 - 2) Arts/Culture: Development or support of cultural activities, including visual, performing arts in a volunteer or professional capacity.
 - 3) Compassion: Demonstrating care and concern to promote health and well-being of others
 - 4) Environment: Preservation, restoration or enhancement of our natural environment.
 - 5) Community Inclusion: Support of others to have an ability and capacity to participate fully, to contribute to one's community to the fullest extent possible, and to have value attached to one's participation and contribution.
 - 6) Volunteerism: Giving of one's time, talents or knowledge for the betterment of others and the community
 - 7) Civic pride: Promotion of our distinctive quality of life to our citizens and the world.

(c) **Award of Excellence**

- i. Heart of Medicine Hat: For an individual, organization or business (outside of core business) who has made major contributions to enhance the quality of life in Medicine Hat in a variety of areas for a minimum of 15 years.

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- ii. Change Maker: For an individual or organization or business (outside of core business) who has made a major contribution to enhance the quality of life in Medicine Hat in the past five years through innovation, advocacy or leadership in social, economic or urban development.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

2.01 The Corporate Communications Department will:

- (a) Provide the necessary administrative support and ensure compliance with the policy.
- (b) Facilitate the nomination and selection process.
- (c) Organize the delivery of the awards as appropriate.
- (d) Provide budgetary support (as approved by City Council).

2.02 The Community Vibrancy Advisory Board and Councillor for Civic Functions will serve as the Selection Committee and will:

- (a) Review the applications and provide a listing of all nominees and recommendations to City Council for recipients of Awards of Service and Awards of Excellence.

3. PROCEDURES

3.01 The City may grant an Achievement Award to individuals or teams who have successfully competed in the areas of sports/recreation and arts/culture. To remain timely, Awards of Achievement may be granted on an ongoing basis and recognized during an open meeting of City Council.

3.01 The City may grant Awards of Service annually to individuals, organizations or businesses who have made an extraordinary contribution to the community.

3.02 The City may grant one or more Awards of Excellence – Heart of Medicine Hat. Nominations may be submitted directly for this award or be chosen from the pool of nominees for the Awards of Service.

3.03 The City may grant one or more Awards of Excellence – Change Maker. Nominations may be submitted directly for this award or be chosen from the pool of nominees for the Awards of Service.

3.05 Award nominations will be solicited from the community at large. Nominees may be residents of the Town of Redcliff or Cypress County so long as their extraordinary contribution has been made in the City of Medicine Hat.

3.06 The Selection Committee and/or City Council may choose not to recommend/select an award winner in a category if there are no appropriate nominees.

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- 3.07** The City of Medicine Hat may exclude nominees who have previously received a Civic Recognition Award in the same category for which they are presently being nominated.
- 3.08** An individual may be nominated in more than one category in any given year, but would qualify for only one award.
- 3.09** The City will sponsor a special reception biennially to present the awards and honour the recipients.

4. APPENDICES

Not applicable.