

# MANITOBA BUSINESS AWARDS

CELEBRATING THE BEST IN MANITOBA BUSINESS

The Manitoba Business Awards were established in 1983 by the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce to recognize and celebrate outstanding business and individual achievements by the Manitoba business community.

## GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to qualify as a nominee for the 2020 Manitoba Business Awards all nominees/applicants must:

- Have operated in the province of Manitoba for a minimum of three (3) years (exceptions apply);
- Employ Manitobans to produce goods and/or provide services;
- Meet the specific eligibility criteria for each award category prior to entering submitting their application; and
- Must not have received a Manitoba Business Award in the same category of application within a three (3) year period

The Selection Committee reserves the right to disqualify any entries that do not meet specific award criteria.

No organization will be eligible to become a finalist in more than one (1) category – however, an organization may apply in more than one category based on your eligibility.

Nominees/applicants are not required to be a member of a Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade to participate in the Manitoba Business Awards.

## AWARD CATEGORIES

The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce celebrates businesses in eight (8) categories:

**Outstanding Social Enterprise:** This Award is presented to a social enterprise organization to recognize and celebrate some of the inspiring social businesses making a real difference for people, for the planet, or for a purpose. This award honours the organizations bringing their values to life through a range of social impact initiatives and that gives back, enriches communities and makes contributions to society, and who use their business acumen to make a real difference, tackling social or environmental problems.

**Outstanding Business:** Award nominees demonstrate success in company growth including sales, profitability, growth prospects, and employment creation in Manitoba by identifying their strategic goals and accomplishments. In addition they will also illustrate their commitment to research and the development of advances in the company's industry sector. Consideration is also paid to a company in any industry for excellence as a business with a vision for sustainable growth, who engages in innovative practices, is also outstanding in their field and has a continuing positive impact on the community.

Subcategories include:

- **Outstanding Small Business:** a Manitoba based company consisting of less than 30 employees
- **Outstanding Medium Business:** a Manitoba based company consisting of 31 to 150 employees
- **Outstanding Large Business:** a Manitoba based company consisting of more than 151 employees

**Outstanding Long-term Achievement:** In addition to the **Outstanding Business** criteria, this award was established to recognize and celebrate outstanding long term business achievements by the Manitoba business community; all award recipients are evaluated on sustained growth, contributions to Manitoba employment and community involvement demonstrating a long-term commitment of *at least 50 years in operation*.

**Start-Up of the Year:** In addition to the **Outstanding Business** criteria, this award was established to celebrate the finest and bravest who risked everything to launch a new enterprise and in recognition of the sweat and tears that went into shaping what will drive the Manitoba's economic engines tomorrow. The award salutes the entrepreneurs and seeks to inspire the dreamers and daredevils in all of us by inspiring innovation without limitation. Organizations in this category must be in operation for a minimum of one (1) year at the time of application.

**Return to Work:** In addition to the **Outstanding Business** criteria, this award (presented and judged by the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba) is presented to a Manitoba business that has developed and implemented an outstanding Return to Work program and developed a culture of Return to Work within their organization with measurable results.

**Business of the Year Award:** All finalists in the Outstanding Business and Outstanding Long-term Achievement categories are automatically eligible for Business of the Year Award. The Business of the Year will be awarded to a business that has demonstrated unrivalled overall business excellence and will be chosen by an independent judging panel irrespective of best overall score. The business must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- a proven track record of sustainability, growth, and sound financial management;
- demonstrate outstanding leadership: empowering their staff, providing career development for employees and a history of employee retention;
- continuously provide exemplary customer service;
- actively contribute to the community and have established a role as a strong corporate citizen; or
- have achieved milestones in their field.

## **ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATION & SCORING**

All Manitoba Business Award finalists (regardless of category) are judged on the following criteria:

- Business achievements
- Innovations in service, product or technology
- Management/employee relations/employee training and development
- Contribution to employment base in Manitoba, and
- Commitment to community and the environment

There is a complex scoring structure attached to each section of the application form. All sections need to be completed regardless of which category that you are entered into. Non-completion of any section of your application will lessen the overall scoring potential of your submission and therefore your chances of making it through as a finalist.

Make sure your submission is clear and concise, using facts and statistics to illustrate your narrative.

You may include .PDF copies of internal documents in place or in support of your responses to any section.

Supporting information (brochures, photographs, video clips, etc.) is also welcome. All addendums to the application must be clearly identified to ensure correlations between materials are easily identified.

All entries and supporting information remains confidential and will be viewed by the Selection Committee and Judging Committee only and all entries will be deleted from the host system within two (2) months following the awards. Detailed feedback from judges is not generally available; however the Chamber can assist those seeking business advice, mentoring or other consultancy services.

## **QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK**

For questions regarding the Manitoba Business Awards, email [awards@mbchamber.mb.ca](mailto:awards@mbchamber.mb.ca) or visit [www.jointhechamber.ca](http://www.jointhechamber.ca).