

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City Seeking Public Nominations for Culture and Heritage Awards

*Showcasing excellence in culture and heritage*

#### Summary

The City of Nanaimo's Culture and Heritage Commission recognizes outstanding organizations, groups or individuals in the arts, culture & heritage fields in Nanaimo. The public is invited to nominate organizations or individuals for the following award categories: Excellence in Culture; Honour in Culture; Emerging Cultural Leader; and John Thomson Heritage Memorial.

This is your opportunity to recognize people and groups you believe have made a significant contribution to making Nanaimo a culturally vibrant city. Nominations are reviewed by the Culture and Heritage Commission, with recommendations being made to City Council. Recipients are recognized at a celebration at the Port Theatre in April of 2015.

Nomination forms are available on the City's website or by contacting the Culture and Heritage Department directly at 250-755-4483 or [cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca](mailto:cultureandheritage@nanaimo.ca).

Nominations will be accepted until October 31, 2014.

**Strategic Link:** Corporate Strategic Plan (2012) "Culture Vitality" - These awards will ensure that Nanaimo will have a strong and vibrant culture which evolves with a coordinated effort leading to greater popularity as a place to visit, live, work and play. A Cultural Plan for a Creative Nanaimo (2014-2020) - Strengthening the Creative Sector, Connectivity: Connecting people, communities and ideas.

#### Key Points

- The Excellence in Culture award is presented to an organization or individual that has achieved regional and/or national recognition in the field of arts and must be recognized as a "Nanaimo Artist," demonstrated excellence in their field, and as being a significant inspiration to others.
- The Honour in Culture award is presented to an individual, group or corporation that is known for their dedication and support of the development of Nanaimo's cultural sector.
- The Emerging Cultural Leader award recognizes up-and-coming, Nanaimo-based cultural leaders. This award targets individuals under 30 years of age who have contributed significantly to the cultural life in Nanaimo.
- The John Thomson Heritage Memorial award honours individuals who demonstrate outstanding heritage service and dedication to the community.

#### Quotes

"These awards recognize the best of Nanaimo's arts and cultural volunteers, as well as creative talent. The work of these amazing volunteers and creative professionals all contributes a sense of vitality and pride within our community."

Fred Pattje  
City Council  
City of Nanaimo

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