



ORDER OF MERIT AWARDS

BACKGROUND

According to CNA's bylaws, the Board of Directors has the responsibility and authority to honour those who have made an outstanding contribution to nursing. The association began to do so in 1971 with what is now called the Jeanne Mance Award.

In March 2007, the Board added five new domain awards, known as the CNA Order of Merit Awards:

1. CNA Order of Merit for Clinical Nursing Practice
2. CNA Order of Merit for Nursing Administration
3. CNA Order of Merit for Nursing Education
4. CNA Order of Merit for Nursing Research
5. CNA Order of Merit for Nursing Policy

The Jeanne Mance Award remains the highest recognition award that CNA offers. There is only one recipient of the Jeanne Mance Award and of each of the Order of Merit Awards in the year that they are offered.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CNA invites nominations from members of the Board of Directors and CNA jurisdictional and associate members. All other interested individuals, hospitals and other organizations are also welcome to submit nominations.

Jurisdictional members need not restrict their consideration of possible candidates to residents of their province or territory.

The **deadline** for receipt is January 15, 2010. E-mailed or faxed submissions are acceptable provided that the "sent" date/time is no later than 23:59 on January 15. Originals should be mailed or couriered.

Eligibility criteria

1. The nominee:
 - a. is or has been (if deceased) a registered nurse with Canadian citizenship
 - b. is or has been (if deceased) a member in good standing of a provincial/territorial nursing association/college that is a member of the Canadian Nurses Association
 - c. consents to his or her nomination being transparent in that the nomination will be made public if it meets the criteria (unless the award is presented posthumously).
2. A nominee for a domain award cannot have previously received an award for another domain or the Jeanne Mance Award.

3. The award may be made posthumously.
4. A nominee cannot be a current member of the CNA Board of Directors or a current CNA employee.

Nomination

The following documents must be completed and received at CNA by January 15, 2010:

1. The nomination form, completed in full by the nominator.
 - a. The form includes space to demonstrate the nominee's ability to meet the selection criteria as described below.
 - b. The nominator must indicate on the form that
 - i. the nominee has consented to let his or her name stand for nomination has been received;
 - ii. the nominee has consented to have his or her nomination made public if it meets the criteria;
 - iii. the nominee is or was (if deceased) a Canadian citizen; and
 - iv. the nominee is or was (if deceased) a member in good standing of a provincial or territorial nursing association and/or college that is a member of CNA.
 2. A minimum of three (3) letters from individuals in support of the nomination. This can include the letter from the nominator.
 3. The nominee's curriculum vitae.
 4. A biographical note no longer than one page.
- Only those nomination forms that are completed in full with supporting documents and received by the deadline will be considered.
 - The nomination form should not advise "see attached c.v." where specific information has been requested. Information on the nominee's work experience and accomplishments in the three major criteria must be included in the space provided on the nomination form.

Selection criteria

Canadian nurses who meet the following criteria may be considered eligible for the award:

1. Canadian nurses who have made a significant and innovative contribution to the health care of Canadians by:
 - creating or assisting in the organization and implementation of new health care/education/research programs; and
 - demonstrating expertise that results in a marked improvement in the health-care delivery system.
2. Canadian nurses whose activities at the national level have resulted in increased status and public recognition for the nursing profession as a whole. These activities may be evidenced by:
 - outstanding contribution to national organizations such as CNA and organizations related to the nominee's primary domain of practice;
 - leadership and service within CNA or organizations related to the nominee's primary domain of practice;

- demonstrated leadership in the advancement/promotion of nursing in the public or private sector;
 - advancement of nursing theory/research in the primary domain of practice.
3. Canadian nurses whose personal contribution has had a significant and sustained positive impact on the nursing profession and practice of nursing in Canada in one of the following domains: clinical practice, education, administration, research and policy.

a) Clinical Nursing Practice

The contribution in the clinical nursing practice domain may be evidenced by:

- in-depth of knowledge of clinical area and an outstanding ability to deliver holistic care;
- demonstrated initiative in influencing positive changes in care delivery using evidence-based practice;
- demonstrated innovation in the delivery of care;
- actively advocating for and fostering a culture that promotes quality care;
- actively sharing his/her expertise and knowledge of best practices in clinical nursing practice with colleagues across the country through presentations, publications and committee participation.

b) Nursing Education

The contribution in the nursing education domain may be evidenced by:

- creativity, innovation and flexibility in motivating learners;
- leadership in promoting excellence in nursing education within academic and practice settings;
- identifying emerging trends in health care and working proactively to initiate changes in programs and curriculum;
- consistently demonstrating a commitment to improving quality of health care through nursing education;
- actively sharing his/her expertise and knowledge of best practices in nursing education with colleagues across the country through presentations, publications and committee participation.

c) Nursing Administration

The contribution in the nursing administration domain may be evidenced by:

- promoting workplace cultures in which nurses and other health-care providers are positive, challenged and involved;
- promoting incorporation of new nursing knowledge and utilization of research findings in health-care settings;
- improving health-care delivery through evidence-based changes that improve effectiveness and efficiency;
- advocating for nurses and nursing in health-care settings;

- actively sharing his/her expertise and knowledge of best practices in nursing administration with colleagues across the country through presentations, publications and committee participation.

d) Nursing Research

The contribution in the nursing research domain may be evidenced by:

- a sustained program of research activity advancing development of clinically relevant nursing knowledge, nursing education, nursing administration and policy development;
- promoting nursing research and the application of research findings in practice settings;
- obtaining research funding from a variety of sources including national health-care research funding agencies;
- actively sharing his/her expertise and knowledge of best practices in nursing research with colleagues across the country through presentations, publications and committee participation.

e) Nursing Policy

The contribution in the nursing policy domain may be evidenced by:

- identifying emerging issues and providing leadership to positively influence the quality of health care for Canadians through evidence-based policy-making including regulation of the profession;
- advocating for nurses and nursing with governments, other health-care professionals and the public;
- developing clear understanding of issues by consulting widely with those who will be affected by policy decisions and fostering partnerships between stakeholder groups;
- actively sharing his/her expertise and knowledge of best practices in nursing policy development with colleagues across the country through presentations, publications and committee participation.

SELECTION PROCESS

The board Committee on Recognition, which is composed of five members of the board, carries out the selection process. The committee members use a scoring system related to the criteria in the course of their deliberations. The committee brings all nominations to the board of directors at its March meeting with a recommendation for the award recipients. The winners and the other nominees will be notified shortly after the 2010 March board meeting.