

SNAPSHOT: Civic Awards

Creative City Network of Canada – Intermunicipal Comparative Framework Project

Legislation and policies. Civic awards appear to be quite common but formal legislation and policies to govern them are less so. Generally, persons are nominated for civic awards rather than making application to be awarded. The majority of the awards reported do not include a monetary award (see Table 1).

TABLE 1
Civic awards legislation, policies, and plans/strategies

	Yes	In process	Total
Legislation	12	0	12
Policy	12	0	12
Cultural Plan or Strategy	4	1	5

Selection process

Only one municipality reports staff involvement in the selection of civic award recipients in either the arts or heritage (see Table 2). In two municipalities, the Mayor and Council make the selection. In six municipalities, a community-based selection committee includes representation from Council, and in nine municipalities a community-based committee is responsible alone.

Types of civic awards

Fourteen municipalities recognize Volunteerism and nine acknowledge Personal Achievement or Excellence in the Arts. In the heritage sector, 12 municipalities award Personal Achievement or Excellence and 11 recognize Volunteerism. In both the arts and heritage categories, only two civic awards include a monetary element. Seven municipalities make annual Book Awards, with monetary values ranging from \$0 to \$10,000. Six municipalities make Annual Urban Design Awards and four report an annual Poet Laureate. Examples of some of the awards give a sense of their scope:

- Arts Achievement Awards
- Excellence in Culture
- Mayor’s Awards for Business Support of Arts
- Business & The Arts Awards (Chamber of Commerce)
- Cultural Hall of Fame
- Artist Residency Award /Artist Studio Award (rental opportunity)
- Honour in Culture
- Cultural Volunteer Award

28 municipalities responded to the *Civic Awards* section of the survey.

Data years reflected in this report: 2003–2005

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TABLE 2
Local government civic awards in the arts, heritage, and other cultural areas

	Yes	Mon- etary	Who decides					No response
			Mayor/ Council	Cmnty cmte/ jury	Staff	Other		
Arts								
For volunteerism	14		1	8		2	3	
For personal achievement or excellence	9	2		8		1		
Achievement or excellence on a project basis	9		1	1		1	1	
Lifetime Achievement Award	5			4		1		
For an organization's achievement or excellence	3			2		1		
For business support	3			1		2		
Totals - Civic arts awards	43	2	2	24	0	8	4	
Heritage								
For personal achievement or excellence	12		3	6		1	2	
For volunteerism	11	1	1	5		3	2	
For an organization's achievement or excellence	9	1	2	3		2	2	
Achievement or excellence on a project basis	8		2	5			1	
Lifetime Achievement Award	6			5		1		
For business support	3			2		1		
Totals - Civic heritage awards	49	2	8	26	0	8	7	
Other								
Book award	7	5	1	5			1	
Urban design award	6			2	1		3	
Other civic awards that include arts and heritage	4	1		4				
Poet laureate award	4	1	1	2			1	
Totals - Other awards	21	7	2	13	1	0	5	

Arts award monetary value: \$1,500

Heritage award monetary value: not reported

Book award monetary values: \$10,000, \$2,500, \$2,000, \$2,000

Other civic awards that include arts and heritage: Karsh Award and Rich Little Endowment, two awards from City of Ottawa, valued at \$5,000 and \$2,500

Overall, 15 respondents indicated one or more civic *arts* awards; 21 respondents indicated one or more civic *heritage* awards; and 12 respondents indicated "other" civic awards (as listed above).

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- Art/Cultural Person of the Year
- Recreation Award of Merit
- Heritage Achievement Awards for Exterior Restoration, Interior Restoration, Adaptive Re-use, New Design – Sensitive Infill, New Design – Sensitive Addition
- Heritage Open Space
- Architectural Conservation Awards
- Liveable City Design Awards
- Heritage Award for Public Service: Volunteer involvement and commitment to heritage
- Arts/Culture Award as part of Civic Tourism Awards
- Quill a Quatrain (Poet Laureate Award)
- Annual Urban Design Panel Awards / Design Excellence Award

Snapshot: Public Art has been updated from the Creative City Network of Canada's *Intermunicipal Comparative Framework Project (Phase One Pilot)* to incorporate additional responses that followed the pilot group of respondents.

The full Phase One Pilot Report is available at www.creativecity.ca/framework

Respondents: Banff, AB; Brantford, ON; Camrose, AB; City of Kitchener, ON; City of Windsor, ON; County of Oxford, ON; District of Saanich, BC; Edmonton, BC; Fredericton, NB; Grand Prairie, AB; Halifax Regional Municipality, NS; Hamilton, ON; Highlands, BC; Kelowna, BC; Kingston, ON; Mississauga, ON; Moncton, NB; Nanaimo, BC; New Westminster, BC; North Vancouver (City & District), BC; Ottawa, ON; Port Coquitlam, BC; Port Hope, ON; Port Moody, BC; Portage la Prairie, MB; Prince George, BC; Red Deer, AB; Regina, SK; Richmond, BC; Saskatoon, SK; Sooke, BC; St. Catharines, ON; St. John's, NL; Strathcona County, AB; Toronto, ON; Township of Esquimalt, BC; Vancouver, BC; West Vancouver, BC.

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