



TILLSONBURG DISTRICT
Chamber of Commerce

BUSINESS. VITALITY.

ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

2018 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Open Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Nomination Deadline: Wednesday, December 13, 2017

The Selection Process

1. *The nominations for the twentieth Annual Awards of Excellence open Tuesday, November 14, 2017. A nomination form is included in this package.*
2. *Each award category has specific eligibility criteria. Nominees are requested to submit a description of the business being nominated, and the category they are being nominated for. Information should include the date the business started, description of operations, number of employees, as well as the reasons for nomination and their accomplishments.*
3. *Nominations for more than one award are permitted, however, a separate submission and nomination form must accompany each category submission.*
4. *Nominations will close on Wednesday, December 13, 2017.*
5. *The Selection Committee consists of: three Past Chamber Presidents, the current President and Vice President, our Platinum Sponsors, past award winners, and business community members. They will review all submissions independently, and then as a group evaluate them using the eligibility criteria.*
6. *Recipients will be selected based upon who best adheres to the eligibility criteria and the overall goals of recognizing business excellence. Those who are not finalists can qualify for future nominations.*
7. *The decision of the Selection Committee will remain confidential until the evening of the 2018 Awards of Excellence held Thursday, May 10, 2018, where each award recipient will be publicly announced.*
8. *The decisions of the Selection Committee of the Annual Awards of Excellence are final, completely independent and without any form of external influence.*

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AWARD**One Award**

The award recipient will be a manufacturing, commercial, retail, service or not-for-profit business that has demonstrated one or more of the following:

- Implemented an operational improvement that has resulted in increased efficiency and reduced costs
- A focus on continuous improvement as evidenced by investment in training, implementation of best practices, investment in new technology, etc

The award recipient is defined as a company that has been operating for more than two years.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**One Award**

The award recipient will be a business that fosters a team approach to community involvement/service through one or more of the following:

- Direct contribution of personnel or tangible assets such as vehicles, computers, etc
- The development of a new community asset that enhances the quality of life for the entire community or a specific sector of the community
- Can also involve financial assistance towards community oriented education, cultural and sports activities as well as environmental protection/enhancement projects;
- Greater weight will be given to unique or innovative initiatives

The award recipient is defined as a company that has been operating for more than two years and whose primary business is not community service.

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD (An Employee Choice Award)**One Award**

Nominated By Employees, this award will be given to a company that demonstrates exceptional commitment to its employees through job creation, training & support programs, morale initiatives, recognition & reward programs, employee health & wellness, and professional & personal development.

Employees: this is your chance to tell the community about the positive work environment your employer has created.

In a minimum of 300 words, (paragraph or point form) describe:

- How your employer has made your workplace an exceptional place to be employed
- Some of the innovative ways your employer supports its employees and works to facilitate their growth and development
- How the culture at your workplace encourages employees to be respected and engaged
- How your workplace culture reflects the importance of work/life balance
- Any other examples of what makes your employer exceptional

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR**One Award**

Definition of Entrepreneur: A person or team who organizes and manages any enterprise, especially a business, usually with considerable initiative and risk. **Characteristics** of an entrepreneur: Passionate, competitive, goal-oriented, disciplined, organized, driven, energetic, positive, self-reliant, etc.

The award recipient will be an individual or team that has created or enhanced a product or service and accomplished one or more of the following:

- Development or enhancement of a product or service that is unique;
- The product or service has achieved a high level of success resulting in business growth as demonstrated by increased revenue, employment, etc;
- The product or service may be an expansion of an existing market segment or an entirely new product for the domestic and/or export markets.

The award recipient will be an individual or team that has been operating for more than two years.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD**One Award**

The Environmental Award will be given to a business that best demonstrates a commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation through meeting one or more of the following:

- Manufactures, markets or implements an innovative green product or technology in a sustainable manner;
- Demonstrates a commitment to future growth and development of green technology;
- Educates their employees and customers on the advantages of adopting green products/technology
- Demonstrates that practices and processes will be increasingly sustainable in the future

The award recipient will be an individual or company that has been operating for more than two years.

THE JANE & PHIL ESSELTINE POSITIVE CHANGE AWARD**One Award**

The Jane & Phil Esseltine Positive Change Award will be given to an individual who has significantly contributed to the betterment of Tillsonburg as demonstrated by their creativity, community involvement and spirit. This individual will be a "Made in Tillsonburg" story and be between the ages of 16 – 35 (inclusive) as of December 31, 2017.

The award recipient will be a business owner (or working for a company or non-profit organization) and will be selected using the following criteria:

- Community Involvement through one or more of the following: Education, Health, Sports, Arts, Town Committees
- Philanthropic
- Enthusiastic
- Dedicated
- Entrepreneurial Spirit
- Growth Oriented
- Innovative/Visionary

A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Award Category _____

Reasons for Nomination/Accomplishments _____

[illegible]

20 Oxford Street, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 2G1