



John E. VanDuzer Distinguished Service Award

The John E. VanDuzer Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding contributions and/or achievements by members of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The award is named for the late Justice John E. VanDuzer, who served as first Canadian president of AFCC in 1983. Throughout his career, Justice VanDuzer distinguished himself as a tireless advocate for children and families. Justice VanDuzer initiated the formation of the first integrated federal-provincial family court, the Unified Family Court of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Criteria for selection

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes any combination of the following:

- The recipient's demonstrated exceptional skills in the field/profession.
- The recipient's contribution to the field/profession.
- The recipient's contribution to the community and other projects or initiatives.
- The recipient's leadership in AFCC through sharing knowledge, experience, skill, commitment, and serving as a role model to the members of AFCC and profession.
- The recipient's contributions to the development of AFCC, its policies, procedures, and governance.

Eligibility

All members of AFCC are eligible, except for current members of the parent organization Board of Directors. Posthumous nominations permitted.

Nominations

Nominations are solicited from AFCC membership. Any member of AFCC may nominate an individual for the award. The AFCC Nominations Committee will recommend at least one candidate for consideration for the award.

To complete the application, you will need the following information:

1. The name, mailing address, email address, phone, and fax numbers, of the person submitting the nomination. **You must be an AFCC member to submit award nominations.**
2. The name, mailing address, email address, phone, and fax numbers, of the nominee.
3. Written responses detailing how the nominee meets the following criteria (up to 150 words per response):
 1. The recipient's demonstrated exceptional skills in the field/profession.
 2. The recipient's contribution to the field/profession.
 3. The recipient's contribution to the community and other projects or initiatives.

4. The recipient's leadership in AFCC through sharing knowledge, experience, skill, commitment, and serving as a role model to the members of AFCC and profession
5. The recipient's contributions to the development of AFCC, its policies, procedures, and governance.

4. The name, email address, phone number of one professional reference for the nominee, including a brief description of the nominee's professional relationship with the reference.

Decision

The recipient of the award shall be chosen from the submitted candidates by a majority vote of the AFCC Awards Committee.

Presentation

This award will be presented at the AFCC Annual Conference.

To make a nomination

To make a nomination, you must submit it online via the SurveyMonkey form. To submit a nomination, click [here](#). Nominations must be received by March 22, 2024.

Questions

Contact Patrick Sommer at AFCC, (608) 664-3750 or psommer@afccnet.org.