



## **PAC Awards of Excellence Program Call for Nominations - 2026**

The Paramedic Association of Canada has developed an awards program to recognize exceptional Canadian paramedics and paramedic supporters at the national level. These awards presentation will be held during the Paramedics Across Canada Expo in Victoria, BC on Sept 19, 2026.

There are five award categories;

- Paramedic of the Year
- Award of Excellence for Education and Training
- Award of Excellence for Innovation and Research
- Award of Excellence for Leadership and Community Building
- Award of Excellence for Volunteerism and Community Spirit

The award descriptions and criteria are attached. They are open to all paramedics or paramedic supporters regardless of their PAC affiliation as outlined for each award.

Please consider nominating exceptional paramedics and paramedic allies by completing a nomination package and submit it via email to [awards@paramedic.ca](mailto:awards@paramedic.ca). Nominations will be accepted until February 15, 2026.

### **Nomination Checklist**

- Nomination form completed and signed by the nominator.
- ONE 500 word, paragraph style, description of why the nominee is worthy of consideration for the given award.
- ONE (optional up to three) letter of support from persons other than the nominator supporting the nomination, not to exceed 2 pages each.
- Up to 3 pages (OPTIONAL) of bullet point or text table that outlines the nominee's paramedic career milestones. Education, publications, and awards may be included to support the nomination. Some consideration is made for the nominee's overall service record.

Each local PAC chapter will confidentially review all nominations. This may include contacting employers, regulators or other members of the paramedic community as determined by the local PAC Chapter representative. Information related to the nomination will be forwarded to the PAC awards committee for consideration.

Submissions are welcome in both official languages. Please note that submissions in French will be translated into English for review by the awards committee.

**Please submit your nominations to [awards@paramedic.ca](mailto:awards@paramedic.ca) by Feb 15, 2026.**

## **Paramedic Association of Canada – Paramedic of the Year**

***NOTE: Direct public nominations for this award are not accepted. The selection of recipients will be made from all nominations across all award categories, or from recommendations forwarded to the PAC Awards Committee directly from PAC Chapters.***

The Paramedic of the Year award recognizes a field active, frontline paramedic who has made a recent, considerable contribution to the paramedic profession. More specifically;

- Exceptional service that highlights and raises the profile of paramedics or paramedicine on a regional, national or international level.
- Exceptional service to the paramedic profession in Canada. Such as, advancing paramedic profession, enhancing paramedic wellness, promoting the legacy of Canadian paramedic history, or memory of past or fallen Canadian paramedics.
- Exceptional service of a paramedic during a major crisis or critical event of regional, national or international significance.

“Exceptional service” may include a wide range of activities, such as frontline incident response or coordination; public awareness and communication; advocacy and support to paramedic organizations; volunteer service to paramedic-related organizations, initiatives, or major projects; paramedic literature, film, or other media; and many other possibilities. It must be emphasized that the examples provided are intended for general guidance only, and are not meant to be limiting or prescriptive. The “exceptional service” can be made to any (or multiple) paramedic service organization, paramedic training institution, Canadian Forces unit, or any form of regional, national or international disaster, rescue or humanitarian organization, as long as the contribution represents both Canada and the paramedic profession.

The award is intended to recognize a recent contribution that was made within the last 2 years, but could include a long-term or ongoing project that was completed or reached a major milestone within the 2-year timeframe. While it is not a lifetime achievement award, the selection committee will consider supporting information that could help to emphasize the significance of the individual’s achievements. Due to the significance of this award title, should be awarded to a paramedic who has had an overall exemplary service record.

- The recipient can be full-time, part-time, volunteer, student or retired.
- The recipient must be a “paramedic,” as defined through educational and professional requirements within each chapter. (ie PCP, EMT, etc)
- The recipient does not need to be an active member of a PAC chapter.
- Although not intended as a memorial award, at the discretion of the PAC National Awards committee, posthumous presentation may be considered.

## **Paramedic Association of Canada - Award of Excellence in Education and Training**

The Award of Excellence for Education and Training recognizes those who have made an outstanding contribution to training and education in the field of paramedicine. For example;

- Identifying and successfully addressing a long-standing training or educational need or deficiency.
- Consistently exceeding standards for the delivery and/or development of paramedic training programs.
- Establishing a new or innovative program or delivery model to enhance the delivery of paramedic education.

The nomination must highlight the special or exceptional quality of the training or educational initiative which makes the nominee a candidate for a PAC Program Award of Excellence. It must be emphasized that the examples provided are intended for general guidance only, and are not meant to be limiting or prescriptive. The “outstanding contribution” can be made to any (or multiple) paramedic service organization, paramedic training institution, Canadian Forces unit, or any form of regional, national, or international organization that contributes to the advancement of paramedicine or out-of-hospital care and has a connection with Canada and Canadian paramedicine. The selection committee will consider other paramedic achievements and supporting information that could help to emphasize the significance of the individual’s contribution to paramedicine. Due to the significance of this award title, it should be awarded to a paramedic educator who has had an overall exemplary service record.

- The recipient can be full-time, part-time, volunteer, or retired.
- The recipient must be involved in the education or training of “paramedics,” or other designated out-of-hospital medical care providers.
- The recipient does not need to be qualified paramedic.
- The recipient does not need to be an active member of a PAC chapter.
- This is an individual award and will not be awarded to a group.
- Posthumous nominations are not accepted for this award.

## **Paramedic Association of Canada - Award of Excellence for Innovation and Research**

An Award of Excellence for Innovation and Research should recognize those who have made an outstanding contribution in the field of research, innovation or have solved a problem or successfully leveraged an opportunity that has served to enhance the field of paramedicine, EMS systems, paramedic safety, or the expand the use of paramedics into non-traditional roles. “Research” may include the natural and applied sciences, social sciences, humanities, or a related discipline. “Innovation” may involve technology or equipment, but may also include innovative approaches or techniques. Examples could include:

- Achieving excellence in the development of a new or an improved technology that promises to enhance paramedic practice, EMS response, safety, or the delivery of care by paramedics.
- Significantly contributing to the body of knowledge directly related to the field of paramedicine or out-of-hospital medical care.
- Collaborating nationally or internationally on a research initiative that may provide significant guidance to EMS, policies, or practices.
- Developing a practical model to overcome organizational barriers, and improve interoperability within EMS systems or allied responders.
- Successfully applying new technologies, or existing technologies in an innovative manner, to enhance the delivery of paramedicine.
- Implementing new practices or processes that have created a positive impact on paramedicine in Canada.
- Building or developing new system that utilizes paramedics into a non-traditional paramedic roles.

The nomination must highlight the special or exceptional quality of the research or of the innovation, which makes the nominee a candidate for a PAC Award of Excellence. It must be emphasized that the examples provided are intended for general guidance only, and are not meant to be limiting or prescriptive. The “outstanding contribution” can be made to any (or multiple) paramedic service organization, paramedic training institution, Canadian Forces unit, or any form of regional, national, or international organization related paramedicine or out-of-hospital care and has a connection with Canada and Canadian paramedicine. The selection committee will consider other paramedic achievements and supporting information that could help to emphasis the significance of the individual’s contribution to paramedicine. Due to the significance of this award title, should be awarded to a person who has had an overall exemplary service record.

- The recipient can be full-time, part-time, volunteer, or retired.
- The recipient themselves do not need to be qualified paramedics.
- The recipient does not need to be an active member of a PAC chapter.
- This is an individual award, and will not be awarded to a group.
- Posthumous nominations are not accepted for this award.

## **Paramedic Association of Canada - Award of Excellence for Leadership and Advocacy**

An Award for Leadership and Community Builder should recognize those who have distinguished themselves as leaders or outstanding advocates for the field of paramedicine; regionally, nationally, or internationally. For example, this may include, but may not necessarily be limited to:

- Exemplary management and the ability to motivate, resulting in significant enhancements within a paramedic focused unit, group, or organization.
- Displaying outstanding leadership during a major crisis or unexpected event.
- Advocating a change, or successfully implementing a new initiative or policy, which has resulted in the enhancement of paramedic practice or response.
- Inspiring or instilling a culture of excellence within the paramedic field, which has led to enhanced practice, safety and effectiveness.
- Achieving excellence in the development and delivery of health prevention programs, or similar initiatives aimed at promoting public safety and reducing the need for EMS services.
- Champions a cause that advances the profile of the paramedic profession through partnerships with other allied responders and organizations.
- Leadership that advances the use of paramedics in non-traditional roles.

The nomination must highlight the special or exceptional quality of the leadership exercised by the individual, which makes the nominee a candidate for a PAC Award of Excellence. It must be emphasized that the examples provided are intended for general guidance only, and are not meant to be limiting or prescriptive. The “outstanding contribution” can be made to any (or multiple) paramedic service organization, paramedic training institution, Canadian Forces unit, or any form of regional, national, or international organization related paramedicine or out-of-hospital care and has a connection with Canada and Canadian paramedicine. The selection committee will consider other paramedic achievements and supporting information that could help to emphasize the significance of the individual’s contribution to paramedicine. Due to the significance of this award title, should be awarded to a paramedic leader who has had an overall exemplary service record.

- The recipient can be full-time, part-time, volunteer, or retired.
- The recipient should be a “paramedic,” as defined through educational and professional designations within each chapter. (ie PCP, EMT, etc), although special exceptions may be considered at the discretion of the PAC National Awards Committee.
- The recipient does not need to be an active member of a PAC chapter.
- Although not intended as a group award, at the discretion of the PAC National Awards committee, this may be awarded to a small group or team.
- Although not intended as a memorial award, at the discretion of the PAC National Awards committee, posthumous nominations may be considered.

## **Paramedic Association of Canada - Award of Excellence for Community Spirit**

An Award for Volunteerism and Community Spirit should recognize those who have distinguished themselves as selfless or outstanding advocates for the field of paramedicine; regionally, nationally, or internationally. For example, this may include, but may not necessarily be limited to:

- Is an exceptionally representative and advocate of the Paramedic profession within their community, province, country or internationally
- A paramedic who is a prolonged and/or exceptional volunteer in any role(s), with preference to role(s) that represent or promote paramedicine, or provide care for patients.
- Advocated and promoted the delivery of health prevention programs, or similar initiatives aimed at promoting public safety and reducing the need for EMS services.
- Inspiring or instilling a culture of community spirit within a paramedic service, station or community.
- An advocate for paramedic or first responder related issues or causes
- The recipient's primary motivation in this role is not financial, profit or wages.
- note: the recipient may be paid or compensated, this award is not restricted to volunteer roles only

The nomination must highlight the special or exceptional quality of the volunteerism or community spirit exercised by the individual, which makes the nominee a candidate for a PAC Award of Excellence. It must be emphasized that the examples provided are intended for general guidance only, and are not meant to be limiting or prescriptive. . The selection committee will consider other paramedic achievements and supporting information that could help to emphasize the significance of the individual's contribution to paramedicine. Due to the significance of this award title, should be awarded to a paramedic leader who has had an overall exemplary service record. PLEASE INCLUDE ALL PROFESSIONAL/PAID paramedic roles as part of the overall nomination.

- The recipient can be full-time, part-time, volunteer, or retired.
- The recipient should be a "paramedic," as defined through educational and professional designations within each chapter. (ie PCP, EMT, etc), although special exceptions may be considered at the discretion of the PAC National Awards Committee.
- The recipient does not need to be an active member of a PAC chapter.
- This is an individual award and will not be awarded to a group.
- Although not intended as a memorial award, at the discretion of the PAC National Awards committee, posthumous nominations may be considered.