

Purpose Established (2001) The Public Works Leader of the Year program seeks to inspire excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals and officials. The primary focus of the award is on career service to the public works profession rather than on any one single event or project.

It is the intent of this award to recognize the career service accomplishments of public works professionals and officials. Towards that end, candidates with a minimum of 10 years qualifying experience may be nominated from any of the following categories. The candidate must be in active service as of National Public Works Week of the year he or she is considered. OPWA membership is not required. Officers and members of the OPWA Board of Directors are not eligible during the time they serve in these positions.

Eligibility Public sector candidates may come from any of the three following categories:

1. Any non-elected, full-time employee of a federal, provincial, regional or municipal government, that is responsible for one or more major subdivisions of a governmental agency.

Most of the candidate's time and efforts must be devoted to the administration and management of the design, construction, maintenance and/or operation of a street or highway system, refuse collection or disposal system, public building, drainage or flood control facility, airport, harbour, or any type of public works installation.

2. Service in an appointed (non-elected) position on a board or commission charge with the oversight or policy level review of public works or infrastructure issue. Such service may have been at the federal, provincial, regional, county or municipal government level dealing with surface transportation systems, refuse, solid waste, and recycling systems, public buildings, drainage or flood control, airports, harbours, or any other type of public works or infrastructure systems. Such positions may typically be represented by the following examples: City Manager; Public Works Commissioner; Environmental Director; Transportation Director or other comparable position.
3. Elected officials who have prior qualifying experience from either eligibility category "1" or "2" and may also be considered as candidates.

Nomination Process Any governmental entity, group, or individual may nominate candidates. Self-nominations are not accepted. OPWA membership is not required. Original submittal should include nomination form and supporting documentation.

Nominations of Individual Awards should be made by the managing public agency or OPWA chapter or branches. Digital submissions shall be sent to Adam Lachhman at adam.lachhman@york.ca Please ensure you have confirmation that the nomination has been received.

For any issues with submission, please contact info@opwa.ca

Materials submitted for supporting documentation will not be returned.

Selection The Top Leader is selected by the Awards Committee and recommended to the Board of Directors.

Deadline November 30, of current year

Presentation The winner is presented with an award and framed certificate at the OPWA Annual General Meeting Awards Luncheon.