



Welcome to ACEC's New Awards Program!

We are proud to celebrate the meaningful and lasting contributions our members make to the economic, social, and environmental quality of life of Canadians and people around the world.

Every year, Canadian consulting engineering companies deliver technical excellence and innovative solutions that improve lives and shape communities. While many award programs recognize these achievements, the ACEC-Canada Awards go further by also honoring the profound outcomes and transformative impacts projects of all sizes create.

The ACEC-Canada Awards program showcases how our members and their projects play a vital role in every aspect of people's lives. This is a story that deserves to be told!

We invite you to demonstrate how your firm, your team, and your project have made outstanding contributions in one of the following five categories:

Community and Social Impact

In this category, firms must demonstrate how their project has achieved one or more of the following:

- enhanced the community's quality of life.
- promoted social cohesion and inclusion.
- empowered a community by addressing their specific needs.
- engaged with the local community, demonstrating a commitment to social responsibility and fostering positive relationships through consultation (outreach programs, volunteer initiatives, or educational partnerships.)
- helped address challenges such as poverty alleviation, healthcare access, social inequality, sustainable development, climate change, etc...
- collaborated with Indigenous communities, respecting their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and rights while delivering positive outcomes and benefits.
- promoted public health and well-being through improved access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare facilities, or other infrastructure and services that enhance living outcomes.
- advanced social equity and justice in the community by reducing disparities, promoting equal access to resources and opportunities, and fostering inclusive development.

Environmental Stewardship

In this category, firms must demonstrate how their project has achieved one or more of the following:

- implemented strategies to minimize environmental impact, conserve natural resources, and promote sustainability and resilience in their project and operation.
- contributed to the preservation and restoration of natural habitats, biodiversity, and/or ecosystems.
- innovated sustainable technologies, processes, or solutions that contribute to environmental conservation and combat climate change.
- responded to natural disasters, emergencies, or other crisis through resilience, agility, preparedness, and/or leadership in safeguarding lives, property, and infrastructure.
- addressed climate change and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, implementing innovative solutions to adapt to climate impacts and promote sustainability.

Commercial and Economic Opportunities

In this category, firms must demonstrate how their project has achieved one or more of the following:

- stimulated economic growth and development by creating jobs, attracting investment, and/or fostering entrepreneurship at the local, regional, or national level.
- contributed to the development and improvement of critical infrastructure systems, such as transportation, energy, water, or telecommunications, enhancing connectivity and driving economic growth.
- pushed the boundaries of technological advancement in the industry through innovation, research, development, and implementation of cutting-edge technologies and/or processes that improve efficiency, productivity, and quality of life.
- contributed to education, skills development, and capacity building, empowering individuals and communities to thrive and participate in sustainable development initiatives.
- revitalized urban areas, enhancing urban livability, sustainability, and resilience through innovative infrastructure, public spaces, or community development initiatives.
- played an essential role in the delivery of a municipal, provincial/territorial, and/or federal infrastructure programs that had an economic impact.

Innovation and Technical Advancement

In this category, firms must demonstrate how their project has achieved one or more of the following:

- introduced new ideas, methods, or technologies that challenge conventional practices.
- demonstrated creativity in addressing industry challenges.
- utilized advanced technical solutions and showcases superior engineering or design.
- shows evidence of rigorous research, development, and implementation of cutting-edge technologies.
- contributed to the advancement of industry standards, practices, or knowledge.
- potential for widespread adoption or adaptation within the industry.

- successfully integrates innovative and technical elements into practical and effective solutions.
- showcases seamless execution from concept through completion, with clear documentation of the process.

Corporate Leadership and Responsibility

In this category, firms must demonstrate how they have achieved one or more of the following:

- prioritized diversity and inclusion within their workforce, demonstrating inclusive hiring and retention strategies that promote equality and representation across all levels of the organization and creating a culture of belonging.
- initiated programs and activities that support underrepresented groups within the organization
- exhibited exemplary corporate social responsibility practices, integrating ethical, environmental, and social considerations into their business strategies and decision-making processes.
- developed and/or prioritized HR practices, procedures and/or training programs that promote and exceed industry standards in areas of well-being, safety and healthy workplaces for employees, contractors, and the broader community.
- committed to and integrated business practices that support Indigenous reconciliation and the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Awards of Excellence and Special Awards

Awards of Excellence will be presented in each category; the total number of awards presented in any given category will be at the jury's discretion.

The Jury will also have at its discretion, the opportunity to present a Special Award in each category to one of the Award of Excellence winners that best exemplifies the essence of the category and stands out for its exceptional impact and overall contribution.

Community and Social Impact: *Engineering a Better Canada Award*

Environmental Impact: *Breton Environmental Stewardship Award*

Economic Impact: *Prosperity Award*

Innovation and Technical Advancement: *Catalyst Award*

Corporate Leadership and Responsibility: *Outreach Award*

Additional Special Awards

The jury will also have the opportunity, should it choose to, present two additional Special Awards as follows:

The Ambassador Award: presented to a project constructed or executed outside Canada that best highlights Canadian engineering expertise.

ACEC-Canada Project of the Year: presented to a project the jury deems to be the top project of the year.

Submission Rules and Conditions

Submissions are required to meet the following rules and conditions:

- The submitting firm is a member in good standing of ACEC-Canada.
- The submitting office is a member in good standing of the provincial/territorial association.
- The project was performed, led or supervised by at least one engineer licensed in Canada.
- Joint submissions are permitted; at least one of the entering firms must be an ACEC-Canada member in good standing.
- The project must be completed between January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024.
- Completed phases for ongoing projects are eligible for submission if completed between January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024.
- The submission requires approval by the project owner and the client if different than the project owner.
- If the firm acted as a sub-consultant, their scope of work must be clearly outlined in the submission.
- The project can be of any size and location.
- A firm can make multiple submissions.
- A project can only be submitted in one category.
- Submissions can be made in either English or French.
- Submission fee is as follows:
 - Large Firm - a firm identified with 100 employees or greater. Payment per submission is \$500.00, plus HST.
 - Small Firm - a firm identified with 99 employees or fewer. Payment per submission is \$250.00, plus HST.
 - Payment must be made by c/c at the end of your submission form. Payment must be received by January 31, 2025 to qualify for entry into the awards.
- Closing date for submissions is January 31, 2025 at 11:59pm ET.