

DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER BC V7V 3T3

16.4.

COUNCIL REPORT

Date:	June 2, 2026
From:	Christie Rosta, Cultural Service Manager
Subject:	2026 Community Awards and Recognition Program Recipients

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the June 2, 2026 report from the Cultural Services Manager titled 2026 Community Awards and Recognition Program Recipients be received for information.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the results of the 2026 Community Awards and Recognition Program.

2.0 Legislation/Bylaw/Policy

The District of West Vancouver’s (District) Community Outreach and Engagement Policy outline a spectrum of engagement which communicates the District’s commitment to engaging the community. Active participation by residents in governance is encouraged and citizens can become directly involved through advisory panels, committees, boards, and other civic engagement opportunities that arise from time to time.

The Awards Committee (Committee) oversees the annual Community Awards and Recognition Program (Program) which exists to recognize and celebrate leadership, personal civic commitment, and engagement in several aspects of community life.

Terms of Reference Policy 0087 (**Appendix A**) guides the work of this Committee.

3.0 Council Strategic Objective(s)/Official Community Plan

The Official Community Plan provides high-level policies to express the District’s long-term intent for improving social well-being by promoting an engaged community.

- 2.8.17: Engage the community in planning for services, programs, and facilities, and municipal decision-making.
- 2.8.18: Provide meaningful volunteer engagement opportunities to support civic programs and services.

- 2.8.19: Enhance information sharing and meaningful participation in civic affairs through accessible communication considerations (e.g. universal access and multilingual considerations).

4.0 Financial Implications

The annual operating budget allocates \$4,000 to support the Program, covering promotional costs, awards, and the reception. No additional financial resources are needed.

5.0 Background

5.1 History

In 2009, Council approved the establishment of the Awards Committee to ensure community recognition in Heritage, Youth, Environment, and other program areas that are deemed appropriate. The Committee's primary goal was to administer an awards program and acknowledge outstanding community volunteer contributions by individuals and/or groups each year. In 2023, the Program expanded to include individuals or groups that perform acts of achievement and philanthropy.

The Program currently has five categories:

1. Environment
2. Heritage
3. Arts & Culture
4. Civic Commitment
5. Health, Wellness, and Activity

A recognition ceremony is held annually, and the ceremony is well attended by award recipients and their guests. A full list of recipients from 2011 to 2026 are available on the District's website.

6.0 Analysis

6.1 Discussion

The Program recognizes the efforts and commitments made by individuals and groups to build a stronger community and enhance quality of life through volunteerism, achievement, or acts of heroism. All award nominations are reviewed and selected by the Committee. The Committee reviews and updates the criteria for nominating individuals or organizations annually.

Individuals or groups residing in West Vancouver are eligible to receive a Community Award. Nominees from outside the community are also eligible, provided the achievement being recognized was undertaken in, or for the benefit of, West Vancouver.

This year, the Committee reviewed 20 nominations and nominated 14 individuals and/or organizations to receive an award.

On June 1, 2026, the Award Recipients were recognized at a ceremony at the West Vancouver Yacht Club as follows:

Recipient	Award Category
Scott Swan	Arts and Culture
Tanja Imhoff	Community Commitment
Canadian Iranian Foundation	Community Commitment
Hollyburn Community Services Society	Community Commitment
John Pierson	Community Commitment
Megan Sewell	Community Commitment
West Vancouver Pickleball Players Executive	Community Commitment
Alastair Nimmons	Community Commitment
Tracy Wachmann	Community Commitment
Sally McDermott	Environment
Catherine Brandt	Health, Wellness & Activity
Meghan and Darrin DeCosta	Heritage
Susan Walker	Heritage
West Vancouver Legion	Heritage

6.2 Climate Change & Sustainability

Social benefits resulting from a community recognition program include an increased sense of civic belonging and pride, volunteer engagement, and appreciation of community-driven projects.

6.3 Public Engagement and Outreach

The Committee revised the marketing materials, call for nominations, and updated the communication plan in April 2026. The Committee also contacted over 100 community organizations, posted notifications in local neighbourhood communication outlets, and distributed printed posters in community facilities. The District broadcasts the program through social media and all District newsletters.

6.4 Other Communication, Consultation, and Research

The Program recipients are announced in the *North Shore News*, through the District's social media channels, and on the District website following the awards ceremony.

7.0 Options

7.1 Recommended Option

THAT the June 2, 2026 report from the Cultural Services Manager titled 2026 Community Awards and Recognition Program Recipients be received for information.

7.2 Considered Options

THAT staff provide further information on the 2026 Community Award and Recognition Program Recipients as directed by Council.

8.0 Conclusion

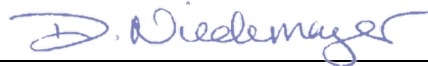
The Community Awards and Recognition Program recognizes the efforts and contributions made by individuals and groups to build a stronger community and enhance quality of life through volunteerism, achievement, acts of heroism or philanthropy. This year, 14 nominations were selected and awarded for their outstanding contributions to West Vancouver.

Author:



Christie Rosta, Cultural Service Manager

Concurrence:



Doti Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services

Appendix A: Awards Committee Terms of Reference Policy 0087

District of West Vancouver POLICY

Title: Awards Committee Terms of Reference
Division: Parks, Culture & Community Services
Policy Number: 0087
File Number: 0282-20-0087

1. Mandate

- 1.1. The purpose of the Awards Committee (the Committee) is to oversee an annual, ongoing Civic Awards and Recognition program. Consistent with our Vision, the District will recognize and celebrate leadership, personal civic commitment and engagement in several aspects of community life. An effective recognition process will strengthen the relationship that will help “secure our treasured quality of life and will be the measure of our success as a community”. To this end, a formal yearly Awards and Recognition program is to be developed that delivers on the criteria set out in the “Role” below.

2. Role

- 2.1. The Committee will:
 - (a) develop the principles, purpose and scope for an overarching Civic awards and recognition program;
 - (b) create an overarching framework for the award programs;
 - (c) consider any additional awards categories that should be added to this program;
 - (d) clarify and develop program category objectives and selection processes;
 - (e) clarify and develop criteria for the awards selection process and work with staff on calls for nominations;
 - (f) assist staff in planning an awards and recognition calendar of events and implementation of awards ceremony(ies) and related publicity; and
 - (g) identify staff and financial resource requirements year-over-year to maintain a model community awards and recognition program.

3. Membership

- 3.1. The Committee consists of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of nine (9) voting members
- 3.2. Appointments will be made by Council according to the General Council Committees Procedure.
- 3.3. The Chair and Acting Chair must be designated, by resolution, according to the Council Committee Procedure Bylaw.

District of West Vancouver

POLICY

- 3.4. The Committee membership includes the following non-voting members:
- (a) One (1) member of Council, appointed annually to serve as the Council representative on the Committee.

4. General Terms and Code of Conduct

- 4.1. Volunteer members are expected to uphold the standards outlined in the General Council Committees Policy, the General Council Committees Procedure, the Council Committee Procedure Bylaw, and the *Community Charter*.

5. Rules of Procedure

- 5.1. Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the General Council Committees Policy, the General Council Committees Procedure, the Council Committee Procedure Bylaw, and the *Community Charter*.

6. Working Groups

- 6.1. Working Groups may be established by the Committee in alignment with the Council Committee Procedure Bylaw and the General Council Committees Procedure for specific tasks or projects identified in the Annual Work Plan.

7. Annual Work Plan

- 7.1. An Annual Work Plan must be submitted to Council for approval and be consistent with the requirements outlined in the General Council Committees Procedure.

8. Altering Terms of Reference

- 8.1. Any alterations to the Terms of Reference must be in accordance with the General Council Committees Procedure.

9. Staff Assistance

- 9.1. Staff assistance will be provided to the Committee, as necessary and within reason, by staff of the Parks, Culture & Community Services division.

10. Approval

Approved by	<input type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
Approval date	2021/01/25	
Council minutes eDocs # (Council Policies only)	4196414	
Council report eDocs # (Council Policies only)	4139278	
Signature	<u>[Original signed by Mayor]</u> MAYOR	

Replaced by	<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor and Council
Replacement date	2025/09/15	
Council minutes Document ID (Council Policies only)	LGDM-711734498-24640	
Council report Document ID (Council Policies only)	LGDM-711734498-24649	
Replacement description	Updated to align with amendments to the Council Committee Procedure bylaw.	
Signature	<u>[Original signed by Mayor]</u> MAYOR	

11. Additional Information

Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
Related procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Date of last review	2025	

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