

AFWA HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD (Revised 10/24)

The AFWA may confer Honorary Life Membership in the Association upon a member who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of agricultural communication and/or rendered eminent service to the Association. Existing Honorary Life Members, prior to Dec. 31, 2024, are exempt from further payment of annual dues. New Honorary Life Members are still required to pay their annual dues to be active members.

I. AWARD GUIDELINES FOR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- The AFWA Honorary Life Membership Award may be conferred upon an AFWA member who is retired or near retirement and who has:
 - Shown leadership in agricultural communication;
 - Made a notable contribution to agricultural communication in Alberta and/or nationally;
 - Advanced the AFWA ideals and objectives;
 - Provided exemplary service to the AFWA;
 - Been an AFWA member for a minimum of 20 years.
- While it is intended that living persons be considered, the Honorary Life Membership Award may be bestowed posthumously.
- The AFWA Honorary Life Membership Award need not be bestowed each year, and more than one Honorary Life Membership Award may be bestowed in a given year.

II. NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

- An AFWA member or members must make an AFWA Honorary Life Membership Award nomination in good standing.
- Nominations must be made in writing and postmarked on or before March 31 for consideration for that calendar year.
- The nomination must be accompanied by the following support documentation:
 - The nominee's achievement in and outstanding contributions to leadership in agricultural communication,
 - Examples of dedication to the ideals and objectives of the AFWA during the candidate's career,
 - Biographical sketch of the nominee that includes their length of membership in the AFWA,
 - A minimum of three (3) letters of support, including at least one from a current AFWA member and one from Alberta's agri-food industry.

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III. AWARDS COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- The AFWA Awards Committee will receive annual nominations and select deserving award recipients.
- The AFWA Awards Committee will:
 - arrange for suitable recognition;
 - coordinate the annual awards program, presentation and publicity;
 - maintain a record of the forgoing for reference by subsequent committees.
- The AFWA Secretary will:
 - keep a cumulative record of AFWA Honorary Life Membership Award recipients which includes the year the honor was bestowed and a biographical sketch;
 - issue an annual AFWA awards press release following the AFWA annual meeting;
 - update the AFWA website Awards page when and as appropriate;
 - publicize both a call for AFWA Award nominations and the annual AFWA Award recipients on AFWA social media channels.

IV. AFWA AWARDS COMMITTEE

I. Committee Establishment

- The incoming AFWA Executive Committee, at the AFWA Annual Meeting or at a subsequent executive meeting, shall each year appoint an AFWA Awards Committee comprised of a minimum of three, but preferably five, AFWA members and one of whom will be an honorary life member. AFWA Awards Committee members can serve for no more than three consecutive years. Awards Committee members can not nominate a member while serving on the awards committee, or be nominated for the award while on the awards committee.

II. Terms of Reference

- The Awards Committee shall be responsible for:
 - Review and making recommendations regarding existing AFWA Awards & Award Procedures.
 - Receive annual nominations and select deserving award recipients for recommendation to the AFWA Board of Directors
 - Arrange for suitable recognition for each award category
 - Arrange and coordinate the annual awards program, presentation and publicity.
 - Explore the introduction of new AFWA awards for the AFWA's membership consideration.

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