

Volunteer Awards Program

Volunteer Awards Criteria

1. Ross Rigney Award

If you know of an outstanding youth in the Minden Hills area, you could consider nominating them for the Ross Rigney Award for Civic Contribution.

In grateful recognition of the Township of Minden Hills' first Reeve, Ross Rigney, as well as the value he placed on mentoring youth and encouraging their participation in the community, the Township of Minden Hills has established the Ross Rigney Award for Civic Contribution as an honour for an outstanding young person in the Township.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award will have demonstrated an outstanding and/or noteworthy achievement(s), on a voluntary basis, bringing positive recognition within and to the Township in; Arts/Culture, Literary, Humanitarianism, Volunteerism, Athleticism, Politics, or Science through either serving on a committee or volunteer work with individuals, organizations and/or groups such as Scouts/Girl Guides/Cadets etc.

Eligibility:

- Nominees must be a resident of Minden Hills.
- Nominees must be between 12 and 19 years old as of December 31st of the year for which the award is given.
- An individual shall be eligible for nomination in more than one (1) year; however, that individual shall not be eligible if he/she is already a recipient of the Award.

2. Minden Hills Good Neighbour Award

Do you know someone, a permanent or seasonal resident, who is an unsung hero and has made Minden Hills a more enjoyable community in which to live? Consider nominating them for the Minden Hills Good Neighbour Award.

Individuals contribute to their community in many ways and the nature of such activities can vary widely, from a single act of kindness to multiple deeds benefiting many people.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award should be someone who has taken the initiative to do spontaneous or unheralded deeds, rather than participation in group activities such as those with community groups or associations that result in Minden Hills being a more enjoyable community to live in. Activities must embody a strong sense of values, promote the positive impact of good neighbourly deeds and have contributed to the vitality and fabric of our community.

Eligibility:

- Nominees must be a resident of Minden Hills.

Nominees may be:

- A merchant or service provider who has gone above and beyond the norm in looking after the people they serve in the community.
- An individual who has undertaken an act of personal courage in seeking to assist another in an emergency.
- An individual who goes out of their way, possibly on a continuing basis, to assist seniors, particularly those who are vulnerable financially or for health reasons.
- An individual who has a good natured, outgoing personality who makes the lives of those they encounter daily, a little more enjoyable.
- An individual who rallies the community for a cause important to the community or member of the community.

3. Gordon A. Monk Award for Volunteerism & Citizenship

In grateful recognition of Gord Monk's achievements as well as the value he placed on volunteerism and citizen participation, the Township of Minden Hills is pleased to accept nominations for the Gordon A. Monk Award for Volunteerism and Citizenship.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award should have demonstrated extensive volunteerism over an extended period of time in multiple areas of service to the community, Township, or otherwise organized special interest groups or service clubs in Minden Hills.

Eligibility:

- Nominees must be 14 years of age or older.
- Nominees must be or have been a resident of Minden Hills for at least five (5) years.
- Nominations must include details on the organization(s) the individual is a member of and duration of service for each.
- Nominations must outline the contribution(s) to the organization and to the village of Minden and/or hamlets of Ingoldsby, Irondale, Gelert and Lochlin and/or the Township of Minden Hills as a whole.

4. Arts & Culture Award

For an individual or group for significant contribution to the art and culture life of Minden Hills through the development, support, preservation or promotion of local heritage, culture, music, visual, performing or literary arts.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award should be someone, or a group, who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in their artistic and/or cultural field. Created a measurable impact within the local community, provincially, nationally, or internationally.

Eligibility:

- A nominee must have resided in Minden Hills and/or have Minden Hills as the main venue for their art for an extensive period of time.
- Community Group must have a minimum of five (5) years of significant contribution.

- Community Builder(s): an individual(s) who has made outstanding contributions to the community's arts and culture, for an extensive period of time.
- Artist(s): an artist(s) who has/have been recognized for their outstanding contribution, or has brought significant recognition to Minden Hills
- An individual or community group that has made a significant contribution, in the form of financial or services in kind, to the enhancement of arts and culture in the community or to the accessibility of public art in the community.

5. Sports & Recreation Award

For an individual, team or group whose athletic accomplishments have brought fame to themselves and their community and/or those that exemplify healthy active living in Minden Hills.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award include any individual, team or group that participates in or promotes sports, recreation, fitness, healthy active living including any local minor sport or recognized recreation activity. Includes those whose accomplishments represent a local, Ontario, Canadian or world record or top standing; those whose efforts have resulted in a climate which benefited athletes and athletics; and those who participate in and promote a local sport endorsed at the international level (i.e. Pan Am or Olympic related).

Eligibility:

- Any age local athlete, team, or sport and recreation builder.
- Must be a resident of Minden Hills. Individuals outside of Minden Hills may be considered if his/her contributions are with a Haliburton County community organization that plays, practices and/or trains within Minden Hills

6. Trillium Award

For any individual, group or business whose horticultural, community beautification, civic pride, protection, conservation or enhancement of the environment efforts support the Communities in Bloom Program.

Criteria:

Nominees for this award must involve a property within Minden Hills. The Nominees will be evaluated by the Awards Selection Committee on the following criteria by means of assessing the nominated property from the nearest public roadway (backyards excluded). A nomination should include the address of the property location, a photo with date taken and be accompanied by brief description with the nomination form to be submitted.

- Tidiness
Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort by the resident, group or business within the community. Elements for evaluation are green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks fronting properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots, signs and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti prevention/removal and vandalism deterrent programs.
- Environmental Action
Environmental action pertains to the impact of human activities on the environment and the subsequent efforts and achievements of the resident, group or business with respect

to: waste reduction and landfill diversion, composting, water conservation, energy conservation, and environmental stewardship activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.

- Heritage Conservation
Heritage conservation includes efforts to preserve natural and cultural heritage within the community. Preservation of natural heritage pertains to actions concerning all elements of biodiversity including flora and fauna ecosystems and associated geological structures and formations. Cultural conservation refers to the heritage that helps define the community including the legacy of tangible (built/hard assets) elements such as heritage buildings, monuments, memorials, and intangible elements such as traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations. The participation of groups such as historical societies and conservation groups are considered.
- Urban Forestry
Urban Forestry includes the efforts of property owners to manage their trees (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, including pollinator friendly tree selection, tree inventory, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and native species that promote heritage.
- Landscape
Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of green spaces suitable for the intended use and location on a year-round basis. Elements for evaluation include: native and introduced materials; balance of plants, materials and constructed elements; appropriate integration of hard surfaces and art elements, use of turf and groundcovers. Landscape design should harmonize the interests of the intended property use. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers along with turf management.
- Floral Displays
Floral displays evaluates efforts of the residents, groups or businesses to design, plan, execute, and maintain floral displays of high quality standards. Evaluation includes the design and arrangements of flowers and plants (annuals, perennials, bulbs, ornamental grasses, edible plants, water efficient and pollinator friendly plants) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.

Eligibility:

- Your property may be nominated by yourself or someone else.
- Can be any residential or commercial property within Minden Hills.
- Please keep in mind, that if you are nominating someone's property, to please notify them to ensure they want to participate.

General Nomination Process

The following applies to all of the above awards:

- Nominations can be made by any resident(s) of Minden Hills or Haliburton County.
- Nominations can be made by any recognized group. Examples are (but are not limited to) school or church groups, service clubs, youth groups, recreational organizations, volunteer committees of Council, cottage associations, and community service organizations.
- Nominations should include a summary of the organization(s), if any, of which the Nominee has been or is a member of as well as the duration of that service.
- Nominations should include an outline of the Nominee's contribution(s) to the Township of Minden Hills as a whole, and/or to one or more of the smaller communities in the Township (including but not limited to the Village of Minden, Ingoldsby, Irondale, Gelert, Lochlin, Moore Falls, Miners Bay, and Carnarvon).
- Nominations must be submitted on the designated Nomination Form. Submissions become the property of the Township of Minden Hills.
- Nomination forms must be received by the deadline specified and must be signed by a minimum of two (2) persons 18+ years of age.
- For online nomination submissions, a valid email address for a minimum of one (1) of the nominators must be included in place of a signature.
- The nominees should not be made aware of their nomination (except for the Trillium Award).
- Members of Council are not eligible for nomination during their term(s) of office.
- Employees of the Township of Minden Hills are not eligible for nomination during their tenure as employees of the Township.

For questions or concerns, please contact the Community Development Coordinator at eweiss@mindenhills.ca