

2024 RPIC Awards of Excellence Eligibility, Entry and Quality Requirements

The Real Property Institute of Canada (RPIC) Awards of Excellence recognize and celebrate exceptional contribution made by individuals or groups to advance the real property profession and community through planning, development, implementation, innovation, quality, and leadership. Award winners will be honoured at the October 2024 RPIC Real Property National Workshop and featured on the RPIC website and through communications.

This document outlines each award category and provides detailed information on submission and selection processes.

Eligibility

- All RPIC Awards categories are open to individuals or groups employed and/or hired under contract by the Government of Canada
- Entries may be prepared with assistance from the private sector or other partners involved in nominated projects, however all **entries must be submitted by an employee of the Government of Canada**
- Initiatives **must have been completed and/or implemented within the last two years to provide measurable data on outcomes.**
- Previous winning entries cannot be resubmitted under a different group or category.

Entry and Quality Requirements

All entries must be accompanied by a fully completed Nomination Form, and all requirements must be met to be considered.

Nominations are due by Thursday, May 30, 2024. [Submit here.](#)

Completed nomination forms must include:

- the public sector nominator's contact information;
- the name and organization of the individual(s) and/or teams being nominated;
- project team member names, titles, and responsibilities; and
- additional documentation to support the nomination.

To ensure the submission meets the evaluation criteria, the submission should:

- Be well-organized
- Have a clearly written narrative text, which is easy-to-understand.
- Include supporting research and methodology (limited to 3 pages maximum).

- Tables, data, and charts should be relevant and clearly understandable.
- Contain a brief description (50 words) that will be used in publicizing the nomination or award.
- Ensure the initiative being nominated has **been completed and/or implemented within the last two years to provide measurable data on outcomes.**
- Explanation for the nomination, emphasizing benefits, outcomes and accomplishments.
- Clearly showcase how the submission links to each of the award criteria through concrete, measurable, and tangible examples. (500 words or less)
- Include videos, photographs and/or illustrations, that enhance the quality of the submission. **The submission can include a video and a maximum of five photos.**

Award Rules:

- The RPIC Awards and Recognition Committee administers the Awards and recommends winners to the RPIC Senior Advisory Council Judging Panel which makes final award decisions with the exception of the Category 7, *Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Real Property Community*, which is decided by the Real Property Senior Designated Official Council at the Treasury Board Secretariat.
- The Awards and Recognition Committee considers all applications and material submitted with or in support of the application.
- Applicants should note that RPIC will not return documentation and may disclose the names of applicants, unless the applicant specifically requests otherwise.
- RPIC may utilize photos, award videos, and additional information for its e-zines, social media, website, and awards ceremony, among other uses, at its discretion.
- The decision of the RPIC Senior Advisory Council Judging Panel is final, and no award will be given if there are no suitable applications.
- Applicants provide consent in the prescribed Nomination Form, which constitutes their agreement to be bound by the Rules of the Awards.
- All those who submit a nomination will be contacted.
- Winners will be contacted by July 2024
- Winners will be asked to submit a thank you video by September 2024.

If you have any questions, please email admin@rpic-ibic.ca.

2024 RPIC Awards of Excellence Categories, Purpose and Evaluation Criteria

Category 1: Excellence in Foundations for Results and Benefit

Purpose

This category recognizes innovative approaches to developing and successfully implementing a new or refined concept, process, or procedure in the field of real property management, or the demonstration of significant improvement in portfolio, accommodation, property, project, or service performance through strategic planning, policy development, performance management, analytics to inform decision-making, change management, risk management, or competency development.

Entry Criteria:

Entries in this category may include real property-related frameworks, strategies, investment plans, portfolio, asset and building management plans, climate resilience plans, portfolio decarbonization plans, policies, programs, legislation, and regulations.

Evaluation Criteria

Entries in this category should demonstrate any or all of the following:

1. Innovation:

- The initiative should showcase a visionary or innovative approach, or the refinement of an existing approach that is significant to the real property management profession.
- Non-traditional methods were utilized to achieve the outputs/outcomes of the initiative.
- The initiative addressed an area of change impacting the real property profession or served as a catalyst for change.
- The initiative's objectives addressed an emerging issue or need arising from changes in government priorities, legislation, policy, technology, etc.

2. Development and Implementation:

- The initiative had a clear strategy, goals, and objectives that supported its development and implementation.
- The initiative addressed the primary vision and need or problem that prompted its initiation, sustained and refreshed over time.

- The processes involved in the initiative demonstrated comprehensive and effective solicitation of input from stakeholders.
- The initiative serves as an example of effective implementation, having measurable results that demonstrate its success.

3. Competency Development

- The ideas, techniques, or methodologies used should be easily transferable and adoptable by other real property professionals and departments.
- The concept, process, or procedure should have the potential to be applied to other initiatives of a similar nature.
- The results of the initiative should have a measurable impact on how real property professionals perform their duties.
- Broader application of the initiative's methodology or components should contribute to the advancement of good practices in the real property management field.

Category 2: Excellence in Investment and Project Management

Purpose:

This category recognizes the successful application of investment development and project delivery best practices and lessons learned in achieving the intended results for Government of Canada workplaces and assets. This category focuses on five key aspects:

- 1) clear requirements definition, options analysis;
- 2) options analysis based on robust cost estimating, scheduling and risk analysis;
- 3) design excellence;
- 4) cost, scope schedule and risk management; and
- 5) transition to operations and commissioning

Successful entries demonstrate excellence in these areas, resulting in high-performing assets, improved workplace efficiency and effectiveness and enhanced stakeholder engagement and partnerships.

Entry Criteria

Entries in this category should focus on investments or project management initiatives that aim to create new or renovated work environments that promote collaboration, leverage technology to improve efficiency, and prioritize the health and well-being of employees and Canadians.

Examples of eligible projects include new construction, recapitalization or renovation projects with a focus on excellence in building or infrastructure design, use of innovative construction practices, incorporation of technology effective project management and contracting practices that lead to high-performing assets in the federal portfolio.

Evaluation Criteria

Entries in this category should demonstrate any, or all, of the following:

- integration and collaboration across sectors
- effective stakeholder engagement and/or partnerships
- clearly articulated business case and/or development plan and/or land use plans
- creative, innovative use of design and/or technology to increase workplace efficiency and effectiveness or to manage unexpected challenges.
- effective project management
- replicability
- best value* *Best value: as demonstrated by *the extent to which* a solution or investment achieves the optimal balance of resource expenditure and realization of outcomes, including socio-economic and

environmental returns, throughout the asset or service life cycle. The lowest price is not always representative of best value.

Category 3: Excellence in Real Property and Infrastructure Operations Services

Purpose

This category recognizes the contribution of individuals or teams who work behind the scenes to ensure the day-to-day availability, functionality, and quality of real property accommodations or infrastructure services for Government of Canada programs and Canadians.

This includes a wide range of areas, such as buildings and infrastructure (bridges, highways, dams) operations, intelligent building systems, emergency planning and response, security, and lifecycle management. Entries in this category should demonstrate excellence in areas such as service continuity, accommodations and facilities management, recommissioning, resilience and other related aspects.

Entry Criteria

Individuals or teams that often work in roles that are not in the executive (EX) level, but their contributions go above and beyond and are vital to the success of the programs they support.

Evaluation criteria

Entries should demonstrate a consistent, sustained history of exemplary client service, team leadership and administration or operational skills, advanced program or best practices in the real property field, innovative and potentially digital solutions to meet client requirements, a collaborative approach to inspiring and enabling others, and recognizing individual and team contributions, excellence in responding to business continuity and emergency response and delivery of tangible benefits.

Category 4: Excellence in Greening Government

Purpose

Recognizes an individual or group's contributions to meeting the Government of Canada's goals to transition to net-zero carbon and climate-resilient operations, and/or reducing environmental impacts, including on waste, energy, water, and biodiversity, including:

- Strategic planning informed by data to identify priorities and best value investments
- Implementation of designs, practices, or processes that aim to achieve Greening Government Strategy goals
- Achieving measurable results through reduction in:
 - greenhouse gas emissions reduction
 - reduction in energy consumption
 - reduction in water consumption
 - waste reduction / increased recycling
 - climate change risks to real property services and operations

Entry Criteria

Entries in this category include initiatives that reduce the environmental impact of greenhouse gas emissions, waste, water and energy consumption and that support government targets for a sustainable climate resilient federal real property portfolio.

Evaluation Criteria

Entries in this category should demonstrate any, or all, of the following:

- best value or increased energy and environmental efficiencies such as
 - reduction in energy or water consumption and waste, or
 - facility or portfolio use optimization through colocation, collaboration synergies
 - achievement of net zero-carbon or zero-carbon-ready building standards
 - significantly lower emissions from a retrofit (e.g., greater than 50% reduction in GHG emissions or electricity last mile)
- improved resilient operation such as
 - Interlinked climate / infrastructure systems
 - Strategic preparedness (Climate Risk Vulnerability Assessment to implementation)
- effective planning and project management
- integration, collaboration, effective stakeholder engagement and/or partnerships

Category 5: Excellence in Engagement and Partnerships with Indigenous Peoples

Purpose

Recognizes an individual or group who have worked to deliver a real property project, program or service in a way that is both effective and mindful of Indigenous needs and perspectives, and that has had a positive impact on advancing reconciliation.

Entry Criteria

Entries in this category include Indigenous consultation as relates to disposal of surplus real property and throughout the real property life cycle.

Evaluation criteria:

Entries in this category should demonstrate any, or all, of the following:

- demonstrated leadership in the development and implementation of real property projects and initiatives that prioritize and advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and communities.
- effective engagement with Indigenous stakeholders, including consultation and accommodation throughout the real property life cycle.
- mindfulness of indigenous needs and constraints when seeking solutions to real property issues and challenges.
- meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations, and the use of Indigenous Participation Plans resulting in successful delivery of the project, program or service.
- recognition by Indigenous partners or stakeholders, such as letters of support or endorsements, of the value and impact of the real property project or initiative on advancing reconciliation.

Category 6: Excellence in Barrier Free Communities, Workplaces and Services

Purpose

Recognizes an individual or team achievement in real property that improves accessibility in support of a barrier-free Canada by 2040. The achievement should involve the proactive identification, removal and prevention of barriers to accessibility in priority areas such as:

- the built environment
- the design and delivery of programs and services
- the procurement of goods, services and facilities

Entry Criteria

Entries in this category include individuals or a team who have made a significant contribution to creating an inclusive, barrier free and accessible community for people with disabilities.

Evaluation Criteria

Entries in this category should demonstrate any, or all, of the following:

- increased inclusion and accessibility for people with disabilities
- specific results achieved by the nominee(s) achieved and how were they measured or assessed
- plans for continuing the impact of the initiative
- application of the key principle of the Accessibility Canada Act “Nothing Without Us” which involves consulting with persons with disabilities when developing laws, policies and programs that impact them.
- recognition by stakeholder(s) such as letters of support, is required

Category 7: Outstanding Contribution to the Federal Real Property Community (Selected by the TBS Real Property Senior Designated Officials Council)

Purpose:

Recognizes an individual or team who made an integral contribution in advancing the federal real property community over a sustained period, through:

- **advancement of the profession:** demonstrating an outstanding level of personal involvement, effort, leadership, and achievement in the advancement and/or change in real property profession and practices
- **leadership/service to Real Property Institute of Canada (RPIC):** engaging in volunteering, mentoring, knowledge sharing activities that benefit RPIC through service and leadership within the RPIC Community.
- **exemplary professionalism:** outstanding dedication in their work, high level of commitment to public-service values and ethics, respect for others, integrity, professionalism, inspirational model for colleagues and/or employees, demonstrating a commitment to excellence, professionalism and public service.

Entry Criteria:

Nominees must be individuals who are currently or have previously been employed by the federal government. Nominees should have a track record of excellence in their work over a period of time and have made a significant contribution to the real property field.

Evaluation criteria:

Entries in this category should demonstrate an exceptional and sustained contributions to the real property community and profession, such as:

- a personal history of effective leadership, direction and achievement in the real property field
- significant contributions to the field of real property by advancing knowledge, promoting innovation, and/or advocating for best practices
- a demonstrated commitment to advancing the mandate of the Real Property Institute of Canada
- playing a significant role in building professionalization and/or specialist skills within the profession
- achieving concrete results for advancing the federal real property profession and/or program(s)
- serving as an inspirational model for colleagues and/or employees

- outstanding dedication in their work while maintaining a high level of commitment to public-service values and ethics (respect for others, integrity, professionalism)
- played an active role in removing barriers and enabling talented employees from underrepresented groups to realize their full potential and attracting new talent