



Award of Merit

“Designed to honour individuals who have made significant contributions to the deathcare profession throughout Canada.”

APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2026

Initiated in 1999 by a motion of the Board of Directors, this award has been given out over the years to honour those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the death care profession in Canada. Qualified nominees are those who have demonstrated a history of contributions with a national focus to death care in Canada.

The award is not limited to one recipient and does not have to be awarded every year (originally stated “will be given out from time to time”).

This award is open to funeral directors, embalmers, cemeterians, suppliers, educators, regulators and administrators, within the deathcare profession.

Past Recipients:

1999	C. William Bowes	2000	Gilles Poirier
2001	Susan MacKinnon	2002	Lorne Kelly
2003	Marlin Foist	2004	Robert Greschuk
2005	Geoff Carnell	2006	Brian McGarry
2007	Charles Curry	2008	Robert Scott
2009	Mike Meyer	2010	Jerry Smolyk
2011	A. John Doyle	2012	Allan Bailey
2013	Allan Cole	2014	No Recipient
2015	Sheila Nunn and Daniel Scanlan (co-recipients awarded posthumously)	2016	Jean Garneau
2017	Faye Doucette	2018	Alain Dumont
2019	No Recipient	2020	John Francis Green
2021	John (Jack) Gordon	2022	Sandy Mahon
2023	No Recipient	2024	No Recipient
2025	Jane Titcombe & Randy Rogalsky		

Qualification Criteria

The Award of Merit is designed to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the deathcare profession ***throughout Canada*** and is open to funeral directors, embalmers, cemeterians, suppliers, educators, regulators and administrators, within the deathcare profession.

The following criteria outline the qualifications for nominees:

1. Distinguished Career:

- A minimum of 10 years of experience in the deathcare profession.
- Demonstrated excellence in various aspects of deathcare service, including operations, management, community service, and leadership.

2. Significant Contributions:

- Evidence of outstanding contributions to the deathcare profession, such as innovative practices, educational initiatives, or advancements in service delivery.
- Involvement in professional associations or organizations that promote the growth and integrity of the deathcare sector.

3. Leadership and Mentorship:

- Proven track record of leadership within the profession.
- Commitment to mentoring and supporting the development of future deathcare professionals.

4. Community Engagement:

- Active participation in service or outreach programs that enhance the understanding of funeral service and its importance throughout Canada.
- Initiatives that foster a positive relationship between deathcare providers across Canada and the communities they serve.

5. Advocacy and Professionalism:

- Advocacy for the deathcare profession at local, provincial, and/or national levels.
- Upholding high standards of ethics, professionalism, and integrity throughout their career.

6. Recognition by Peers:

- Nomination supported by testimonials or endorsements from peers, colleagues, or industry leaders that highlight the nominee's impact and contributions.

7. Lifelong Learning:

- Commitment to continuing education and professional development, demonstrating a dedication to staying current with industry practices and advancements.

8. Impact on the Profession:

- Clear evidence of how the nominee's work has positively influenced the deathcare profession in Canada, whether through policy changes, educational programs, or service innovations.

Nomination Guidelines

- Nominee must be nominated by their peers, with at least one being a FSAC member;
- Nominee must be a FSAC member in good standing;
- Nominee must not be a current Director or Officer on the FSAC Board of Directors;
- Mover of one nominee, cannot be a seconder for another nominee.

Submissions

- Nominations are to be submitted using the prescribed nomination form to the FSAC office by email at info@fsac.ca by March 31, 2026;
- Eligible nominations must include the following (See attached Form):
 - Full name of nominee
 - Email address and telephone contact of nominee
 - Full mailing address of nominee, including organization name (if applicable) and postal code
 - Full name of nomination mover
 - Full mailing address of nomination mover, including organization name (if applicable) and postal code
 - Email address and telephone contact of nomination mover
 - Full name of nomination seconder
 - Email address and telephone contact of nomination seconder
 - An outline detailing why the nominee is an appropriate candidate.
 - The application must be completed based on the criteria. Please include details as well as supporting documents if applicable.

Note: Failure to comply with nomination guidelines will result in nomination rejection.

Note: Should no nominations be put forth, the Membership Committee shall seek nominations from the Board of Directors, to be provided no later than April 4, 2026. Should the Board not provide nominations the Membership Committee reserves the right to nominate an FSAC member as the recipient of the Award of Merit.

Note: Starting in 2020, the nominations will be retained for a period of two (2) years.

The FSAC office will confirm receipt of nominations by return email to the nomination mover. Nominations will be reviewed for selection of the award recipient by the Membership Committee, with final approval by the Board of Directors. Results will be announced to the nomination movers by April 30, 2026.

Any questions or concerns regarding the nomination and selection process should be addressed with the FSAC office at info@fsac.ca or by phone at 613-505-0277.