

# **Diabetes Canada 2021 National Awards**

Volunteer Engagement  
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# Introduction

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Following the ground-breaking work of Nobel laureate Sir Frederick Banting and his colleagues, groups of dedicated volunteers began gathering across the country in the service of supporting people living with diabetes. It was the combining of resources between these groups that eventually led to the creation of the Canadian Diabetes Association in 1953, and then Diabetes Canada in 2017. 2021 marks an important year as we recognize the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin.

Recognizing that our organization was built upon a foundation of dedicated volunteers, health-care professionals, and community and corporate partners, we celebrate those who help us to achieve what we couldn't possibly do alone.

In recognition of all the generous hearts who host events, participate in fundraising events, research and compile valuable data, deliver presentations in the community or virtually, open doors, inspire others, care or stand up for those living with diabetes – it is not only our duty to recognize and celebrate their contributions, it is an honour.

This document is a guide to the national awards applicable to volunteers and community partners of Diabetes Canada. Chances are you know someone who is eligible – nominate them today!

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Volunteer Engagement Team by emailing [volunteernational@diabetes.ca](mailto:volunteernational@diabetes.ca).

Thank you for doing your part to recognize the incredible contributions of our volunteers and community partners!

**Volunteer Engagement Team**

## Summary Table of Awards

### Diabetes Canada Awards National Awards

The Charles H. Best Award (1/year)

The Kurt Kroesen National Inspiration Award (1/year)

National Volunteers of the Year Award (\* max 15/year)

National Young Volunteer Award (1/year)

National Advocacy Leadership Award (1/year)

Outstanding National Partnership Award (1/year)

The Frederick G. Banting Award (1/year)

The Innovation Award (1/year)

The Collaboration Award (1/year)

The Bold & Audacious Achievement Award (1/year)

\* For 2021 only, there will be an increase in the National Volunteers of the Year Award from 10/year to 15/year.

**Note:** All national award nominations except the National Volunteers of the Year category must be accompanied by one letter of recommendation or support from someone other than the nominator. For 2021, the National Volunteers of the Year Award will be based solely on the nomination form submitted; however, nominators are welcome to submit supporting documentation.

# National Awards

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## Instructions for Submitting a Nomination for a National Award

### Who May Submit an Award Nomination?

We welcome nomination submissions from all our friends and supporters including volunteers, members (regular and professional), chapters and branches, employees, community partners, and donors.

### Submitting a Nomination

Please carefully read the eligibility criteria for each award then select the award that best fits the individual, group or organization you wish to nominate, and finally complete the nomination form explaining how the nominee meets (or exceeds!) the eligibility requirements.

There are two versions of the national nomination form - an online nomination form that will be submitted directly upon completion, or a fillable Word document that can be downloaded, filled-out, saved, and submitted via email as an attachment to [volunteernational@diabetes.ca](mailto:volunteernational@diabetes.ca).

It is important to note that **all national award nominations except the National Volunteers of the Year category must be accompanied by one letter of recommendation or support from someone other than the nominator**. For 2021, the National Volunteers of the Year Award will be based solely on the nomination form submitted; however, nominators are welcome to submit supporting documentation.

Nomination forms and letters of support can be emailed to [volunteernational@diabetes.ca](mailto:volunteernational@diabetes.ca). For those submitting an online nomination form and emailing the letter of support separately, kindly include a brief note indicating which nomination the letter is intended for in the email.

There is no limit on the number of nominations you may submit so if you wish to nominate more than one deserving individual or group, you are welcome and encouraged to do so! The only requirement is to submit each subsequent nomination separately.

### Timing

The deadline to submit a nomination is **Friday, September 24, 2021**.

Nominations received after the deadline will be considered for the next calendar year. Awards will be presented on or close to International Volunteer Day (December 5) and celebrated during a national virtual award ceremony.

Nominations will be reviewed by the National Awards Review Committee in early October 2021. Nominators and successful award recipients will be notified of the results by mid-October.

### Questions?

The National Volunteer Engagement team is here to help! Please contact us at [volunteernational@diabetes.ca](mailto:volunteernational@diabetes.ca).

## 1. The Charles H. Best Award

**Description:** This award recognizes a health-care professional who has made a significant difference across Canada towards improving the quality of life of individuals living with diabetes.

**Eligibility:** The nominee must be a health-care practitioner accredited by their profession, pursue work that is supported or endorsed by Professional Section.

## 2. The Kurt Kroesen National Inspiration Award

**Description:** This award is intended to recognize either an individual or family who has overcome great odds to manage their diabetes and continue to live a fulfilling, active and inspiring life. The essence of the award is that the individual or family has achieved success in their personal life or community, in spite of the diagnosis of the disease. The significant accomplishment may include, but is not limited to, an athletic, musical, business, writing, medical, engineering, teaching, or other type of achievement. As an example, this award could go to an Olympic athlete with diabetes. The individual or family must have triumphed over adversity in some way. For instance, they may have overcome cultural isolation in a way that may inspire others to follow suit. Challenges that the individual or family will have overcome may include one or any combination of the following:

Rural or Remote Location	Insufficient Medical Support	Low Income
Insufficient Financial Support	Insufficient Family Support	Cultural Isolation

### Eligibility:

- **The individual must:**
  - be a person who has been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes, may be granted posthumously;
  - show outstanding personal achievement with diabetes while demonstrating a positive healthy attitude;
  - demonstrate that he/she overcame some obstacle to achieve success in spite of his/her diagnosis.
- **The family must:**

- include a member who has been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes within the immediate family;
- demonstrate that it has provided sustained support for the member, who is directly affected by diabetes, by scheduling work and other activities/responsibilities in order to spend time assisting, learning with or supporting that family member.

### 3. National Volunteers of the Year Award

**Description:** This award honours volunteers, either individuals or groups, who have gone above and beyond in supporting the work of Diabetes Canada. The nominee's geographic location, any other extenuating circumstances, will be taken into consideration during the selection process. Please note that an individual can be nominated posthumously.

This would include either one of the following:

- Outstanding dedication (over a minimum period of 10 years) where an individual's long-term dedication and exemplary commitment and reliability has made Diabetes Canada a vital and responsive organization for people living with or affected by diabetes; OR
- Outstanding achievement where an individual or group whose outstanding accomplishments have made an impact in greatly advancing Diabetes Canada towards its mission.

**Eligibility:** The individuals or groups:

- must demonstrate that they have made a significant contribution towards the fulfillment of Diabetes Canada's mission; OR
- their outstanding dedication will be demonstrated by having volunteered for a minimum of 10 years.

**Note:** For 2021, a letter of support is not required to accompany this award category only a completed nomination form. Nominators are welcome to submit supporting documentation.

### 4. National Young Volunteer Award

**Description:** The National Young Volunteer Award has been designed to honour youth for their role in furthering the advancement of the Mission and Ends of Diabetes Canada. It is the purpose of this award to recognize the work of someone up to age 29 who has contributed to Diabetes Canada. We are looking to honour these individuals with the intent of encouraging their ongoing and long-term involvement in our work.

**Eligibility:** The candidates must:

- be between 13 and 29 years of age.

- be considered as role models who demonstrate responsible behaviour, with or without diabetes
- be a volunteer of Diabetes Canada
- have contributed to the work of Diabetes Canada in some way. This may include Fund Development or Advocacy work, or the delivery of Programs & Services
- demonstrate that they worked with Diabetes Canada because of their personal interest in its mission.

## 5. National Advocacy Leadership Award

**Description:** This award recognizes a member of Diabetes Canada Professional Sections, National Advocacy Council or Area Advocacy Committee, or a grassroots advocacy volunteer or group who has demonstrated exemplary leadership, commitment, and dedication in advancing public policy in the interests of people living with diabetes and in accordance with the advocacy strategy of Diabetes Canada.

**Eligibility:** The candidates must:

- be a member of Diabetes Canada’s Professional Section, National Advocacy Council, Area/Regional Advocacy Committee, or a grassroots advocacy volunteer or group;
- demonstrate that their advocacy work applies to the advocacy strategy/goals of Diabetes Canada.

Additional terms:

- Any possibility that an individual or organization could exploit winning this award for personal profit or commercial advantage will be taken into consideration by the National Awards Committee.
- No member of Diabetes Canada’s Board of Directors or the National Awards Committee is eligible for nomination for the award unless under exceptional circumstances.
- This award is intended to recognize current advocacy activities and will not be awarded posthumously. However, in the event of the nominee’s passing after being selected, but before being presented with the award, it shall be presented posthumously.
- A nomination may be resubmitted in a subsequent year.

## 6. Outstanding National Partnership Award

**Description:** This award is to recognize a partner in business, media, health care, government, non-government organization, educational institution, service club or any other sector, regionally or nationally, that has worked with Diabetes Canada to create a significant outcome.

**Eligibility:** The institution must:

- have worked with Diabetes Canada
- have contributed significantly to Diabetes Canada's mission
- have contributed to a program or initiative that may be regional with national potential or already national in scope

## 7. The Frederick G. Banting Award

**Description:** It is the purpose of the award to recognize an individual, not-for-profit organization, group, corporation or government department that has significantly contributed to either preventing diabetes and chronic disease in Canada, or to improving the quality of life of individuals affected by diabetes nationwide. This award is to be given out selectively (perhaps not annually) and will be awarded only at the National level. There will not be a provincial/territorial equivalent. It is the intent of this award to recognize a significant contribution to diabetes that may not fall within the scope of some of the other awards. The following type of work may be recognized through this award:

- a retailer or restaurant chain positioning healthy choices prominently
- an individual who has contributed significantly to the work of Diabetes Canada, or to the management or prevention of diabetes outside of Diabetes Canada
- corporations who support workers who are affected by diabetes.

**Eligibility:**

- The work of the individual or group receiving this award should have an impact on a large population base. It does not have to have national in scope but should impact a great number of people.
- The recipient can be an individual, a not-for-profit organization, a corporation or government department.
- The initiative may or may not be directly related to diabetes, as an initiative to increase the health status of the population (improve fitness levels, food choices or socio-economic conditions) would be worthy of consideration.
- If the recipient is a corporation, **it is not to be awarded for** funding into Diabetes Canada, but rather for other work that either prevents diabetes and chronic disease or assists with the management of diabetes or chronic disease in general.

## 8. The Innovation Award

**Description:** Nominees for this award have recognized new and better ways to address a need in the diabetes community despite the many demands, and sometimes too few resources, faced by the non-profit sector. Nominees have found innovative, creative, and efficient solutions to further Diabetes Canada's mission and make a difference in the lives of the people living with diabetes.

**Eligibility:** Candidates must:

- Demonstrate innovation in an approach or strategy,
- Be a volunteer of Diabetes Canada or engage with Diabetes Canada (such as third-party events);
- Have contributed significantly to the mission of Diabetes Canada.

## 9. The Collaboration Award

**Description:** Nominees for this award provide outstanding examples of collaboration within Diabetes Canada and/or the diabetes community. These nominees recognize the benefits that come from accessing the expertise of individuals, local businesses, government, non-profits or charities – be it human, financial, or physical resources. Through the synergy that comes with collaboration, the nominees have facilitated increased capacity, efficiency, and innovation in the service they provide to the diabetes community.

**Eligibility:**

- The nominee should demonstrate outstanding collaboration in a project or work that relates to the strategic direction of Diabetes Canada.
- At least one collaborative partner must be from Diabetes Canada.

## 10. The Bold & Audacious Achievement Award

**Description:** This award is to honour the achievement of a goal or project that set a compelling vision for something so impactful, others might have doubted that it could be done, but they did it anyway. This person or team demonstrated a vision that was clear and compelling, served as unifying focal point of effort, and acted as a clear catalyst for team spirit and/or inspiration in completing the goal.

**Eligibility:** Candidates should:

- be directly involved in a project, task or activity which relates to Diabetes Canada's mission and strategic plan;
- be able to demonstrate the impact of their achievement.